

## Our brothers and cousins

OUR BROTHERS AND COUSINS.

PREACHING TENT. See p. 94.

OUR BROTHERS AND COUSINS: A Summer Tour IN CANADA AND THE STATES.

BY JOHN MACGREGOR, M.A. OF THE INNER TEMPLE.

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## INTRODUCTION.

IF a huge volume taken at random from a new Encyclopædia were to be thrust before you, and, just as you get interested in one article, the pages were suddenly turned over to the middle of another, and then a second volume given to you next day, and a third the day after, and so on every day, with the same sudden compulsory changes, for weeks together—if you were tossed on the wide Atlantic for a fortnight in a steamer to settle this confusion, and then asked, on your landing, to give a rational account of the best articles in the book, you would be very like a traveller who has been three months in America, and straightway sits down to indite his views at home.

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And, to make the matter worse, the most pressing inquiries are precisely about the very subjects that are most difficult to understand, most easy to blunder in, and most mystified by contradictory statements.

Every Christian Englishman is eager to ask in a breath, "What about slavery? Is the American constitution to be admired? What is the true account of the Revival?" Perhaps it is better, then, to keep the following pages as they were written on the spot;\* and it is more complimentary to the reader to give him the daily photographs unexplained, and thus invite him to draw his own conclusions. 'Tis like to a ramble amid new rocks and rivers. A finished oil-painting might be attempted on your easel at home; but, after all, the rough sketch made in the wood gives the best impression of what was seen at the time.

\* For the *Record* Newspaper.

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Still there are some subjects on which a summer tour gives quite time enough to form reliable opinions.

For instance, an Englishman who reads several American papers every day for a quarter of a xi year may easily gauge the American press; and he must be struck with the palpable inferiority of the American press to the American people. He is a bold man, indeed, who runs a tilt against the press of any country; but he is a coward who dares not tell a nation that their daily papers are beneath their standard and their destiny.

It is surely a wholesome restraint upon every paper and political party in England, to know that its friends may be in or out of office the day after to-morrow. On the other hand, in America, once in the "Opposition," you are fixed there at least for four years—a time long enough to make your best friends tired of you, and short enough to keep your worst enemies certain of a change.

On another point, the rapid traveller may remark, without being rash, hearing, as he does every day, bitter and constant complaints of misgovernment urged by the best and the richest, and the most intelligent Americans; while, in England, we are used to hear such grumbling chiefly from the ignorant or the disappointed. If there is any revolution to be attempted in England, it is to put the masses uppermost; xii and if there can be a revolution in America, it will be to turn the pyramid upright, which now stands upon its half-crushed apex.

Let us suppose that these are the misjudged conclusions of rapid travelling through America, and what must be the amount of gross misapprehension of England which the usual fleet run of an American traveller entails?

You see America while you move, by rail, by river, on the lake steamer, or in the populous hotel. England is only seen by stopping. There is scarce a township in her little bounds that has not more to study, than whole States of prairie or forest, which have no antiquities to

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arrest, no lore of history to make the traveller muse. Utterly vain is the endeavour to make the ancient Indian stories a fund for American poetry. It is to try to stereotype a race that is blotted out by every move of civilization. The best American instinctively reverts to Old England for his thoughts on the past. He turns from the Indian relics, which are near but alien, and dwells on the English past, which is remote but homely, and which we too dwell upon as linked with our glorious present.

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Neither of us, in mere touring, can see the real genius of the other by the homely hearth, in the country house, or the city mansion; but the absence of this internal view of Englishmen must be a far greater blank to the American traveller, than what we feel when we pass their homes, and can only try to imagine the inside.

It is easy to write of the American constitution if you have never seen it in actual operation, just as you may speedily describe a skeleton from a model on a diagram, while you can scarcely explain a body when you have lived in its flesh and blood.

A few months of locomotive existence no doubt gives small experience of the political life of a great continent. Still, facts under the daily notice of a traveller, scanning with intense interest this great subject, may be truthfully recorded; and a timid effort to embody their impressions will be found at the end of this volume.

This is no place, nor is there any place, for *comparing* America and England. To compare would be unjust to America as the child, and unfair to England as the parent.

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Can any one acquainted with both countries calmly sit down to compare a new continent, scarce a century under its own ruling, with an ancient islet gifted above all in natural advantages, and laboured, for a thousand years, by the noblest race that ever trod the earth?

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But, though America may be devoid of historic associations, though her social state may be inaccessible for rapid inspection, and her constitution yet too young to be justly brought to trial, there is still a point of view from which we may fairly regard her; and, looking from thence, even a passing glance will not fail to see truthful pictures.

Standing there, then, it is with hearty confidence I affirm, that the effects of the religious movement in America are genuine, deep, and lasting.

Men and women who leave cold apathy, or hot infidelity, in thousands; who acknowledge God, and live a changed life in thousands; and who wane not, nor waver, but grow fervent and more humble every day; these, I say, *must* have something solid at the bottom, whatever fringe of circumstance may float around the substantial.

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It would be thoroughly unfair to judge of any great movement by its frailties; by those oddities and absurdities of even a real excitement, which are hoisted into prominence by its very reality, and are sure to be noticed most.

But no keen eye is required to see the positive and less obtrusive change which has widely passed over this great people's national heart. The heart of the American people has been opened towards religion; the hearts of individual Americans have been thoroughly changed by the Revival.

The American citizen is our cousin by nationality; but the American Christian is our brother at once and for ever. The American is at least like us in language and locomotion; but the Christian there is a brother of us here, and will be a brother with us hereafter. All jealousies of earthly differences, ill-disguised under a trite enumeration of earthly similarities—"the same Shakspeare"—"the same liberties" and so forth—all these doubtful likenesses in profile are as nothing to the vital identity that exists in the very souls of American and English, when both are joined to Christ.

Clasp our hands, dear brothers, in this forever relationship; your hearts are warmed with more than kindred blood; with the sap of “the true vine”; if you and we are grafted in together, and He can say to us “Ye are the branches.”

And what of slavery? can it consist with this revived religion? Well, as yet there is no Christian standard raised against it for the thousands of good men to rally round.

A Christian cannot be pro-slavery. This, at least, needs no proof at all. But, alas! he must either join the abolitionists, and bear their badge as a political party, or be content to live on idly, in a sad individual protest.

Let Christian men provide *some* plan however tedious, *some* means however partial, for the abolition of slavery, and they will have millions of earnest helpers, who now but wish, in lonely knots, for what they well could will and carry, if they only knew their strength and numbers. Every plan that is proposed must, of course, have many objections; but none of these can be so great as the blame of sitting still. Grant it is a horrible subject; a cancer that you do not like to probe; a family misfortune you do not like to discuss; yet it is with you, good Americans, as Popery is with us, not only a blight to make you humble, but a problem to evoke your most earnest efforts to solve. Nor is it any excuse for you that “the abolitionists are too noisy.” “That if people would only be quiet, the slave party would give it up.” The slavers are quite as active and aggressive as their opponents. No question since the world began was ever carried by silence; and the more harm is done by the irritating abolitionists, you are all the more bound to propose some feasible plan, which may soon become acceptable or necessary even to the slavers themselves.

And, now, as to their Constitution; let the Americans try a Republican government. Only they and we could possibly succeed in this the most difficult of all forms. They *may* tolerate it till men get thick together, and elbow one another. But all America is not American. The



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possessions of the Queen of England upon that continent are much larger in mere area than the whole United States. There is ample scope for two gigantic experiments.

And so young Canada looks smilingly upon *b* xviii them. She is free, perfectly free; free enough to acknowledge herself a part of the grandest Empire that was ever ruled, and far too free to join with those whose every man is bound by law to follow the fugitive slave.\*

\* The fugitive slave law has only one merit, and that is, it is broken every day with impunity. The President's message ( *Times*, Dec. 20, 1858) distinctly asserts, that every new piece of ground peopled by the States is, *primâ facie*, slave ground—so that freedom is the exception, not the rule; and every citizen is now declared an abettor of slavery.

It is a mother's highest wish on earth to settle her sons and daughters worthily. When Canada is matured, it will be England's pride and policy to let her rule her house in friendly neighbourhood.

Meantime, Canadian brothers, your wisdom is to grow in England's nursery of freemen; to be sheltered by her powerful arm; guided by her ancient wisdom; and to look with her to the Almighty for His blessing. Stretch your young limbs widely and embrace the two great oceans; let your heart throb as now with loyalty, the real attribute of ripened independence; cover your land with railways and your lakes with steamers; hew down your woods and plant men; xix root out that Popery which is your worst weed, and has been our saddest blight; train up your brawny settlers; your polished statesmen; your brave soldiers; and your faithful preachers of the everlasting truth.

Doubt not the love of England, or its power or will to help you. Fear not your cousins in America, or their power or will to hurt you. Your federated provinces will yet become a glorious country, allied to Britain by long years of sympathy, where the slave is free and the freeman serves his God.

OUR BROTHERS AND COUSINS.

## CHAPTER I

ICEBERGS AND WHALES—HALIFAX—THE 'STIKES' STEAMER—YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—NEWFOUNDLAND DOGS—GREENLAND GAME—COLONIAL HEROES.

THE ten days' voyage from England to America is an unceasing development of pictures of character. To those who are "good sailors," it is a rare intellectual treat,—such incessant discussions, and clashing of opinions, regulated in intensity by the gentlemanly conduct of the ship's officers, and softened by the presence of pale, passive-looking ladies.

It is a time, too, for many a word in season, much tact and wisdom, boldness, sincerity, and patience.

We found a large iceberg drifted past Cape Race at a more westerly point than any ice which B 2 the captain recollected in past summers. Porpoises rolled about on the waves, and some whales spouted with manifest delight; but the shining ebony face of the negro I see opposite my window, warns me that it is better to write notes of what is seen and done on land, than to attempt a description of the pleasant voyage.

It is a novel and pleasant sensation to land on a new country where they talk our own old tongue, and to find new houses under our dear old flag. Halifax is different enough from England to make you feel abroad, and it is also like enough to make you feel at home. Britain never seems so wide as when some thousand miles of sea bring you to yet another England.

This place reminds me immediately of Bergen, in Norway. The wooden houses cased with shingle, broad streets, harbour and islands full of timber, and kerb-stones made of wood.

But many features are of quite another kind. Here are some blacks, there some Germans, then again Frenchmen, and even Indians squatting in the market-place.

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The carts, with high wheels and two boxes like dog-kennels, are filled with bakers' loaves. 3 The negro waiter looks as if he had come from the States by the "underground railway," which issues no "return tickets;" and, as he gives me for a chamber candle the little glass lamp, it is plain we are near Newfoundland.

A red-coated piquet marches past in the dusty street, with Crimean medals on their breasts; and the well-known bugle-call in the fort upon the hill proclaims it is the mess-hour for English officers to attack the roast beef of Old England.

On the black palings there is a hand-bill, "Three hundred labourers wanted immediately. Good wages and work guaranteed for the summer." And near to it another—"One night more of *Jessie Brown, the Heroine of Lucknow*," whose romantic hearkening to the Highland bagpipes has been acted over and over in Canada and the States, as well as in France.

Five sedate judges are sitting out a five days' cause in that court-house, and the eloquence of the Attorney-General and five other counsel is listened to with profound attention by the audience, consisting of one man. The good people of Halifax are too sensible to waste time 4 in hearing arguments; and no doubt they will be content when the Chief Justice pronounces the decision next November.

In the fine dock-yard lies the celebrated war-steamer *Styx*—the "Stikes," as the Yankees call it, when they come to buy ribbons from the sailors' hats which bear the name of the vessel that has so provoked them by acting like a naval policeman, searching the bundles carried by suspicious craft, when it is likely they have a cargo of slaves.

On the whole, it may be a clever as well as a just move on England's part to leave this traffic to be dealt with by the Americans; for they are thus distinctly called upon themselves to put down a fearful scandal, too long winked at by their executive, although utterly illegal even by their own laws.

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Between the Canadians and Yankees there is “no love lost.”

The state of the colonial politics is healthy; that is to say, each party seems to think it is entirely and alone right, and says what it thinks in the newspaper. The papers are well printed, and can be bought from boys who blow long 5 tin-pot horns, such as our grandfathers used to hear.

There are twelve policemen for the town; but a strong military force gives it a garrison air. The names on the best shops seem chiefly Scotch, yet the language one hears in the streets is far more usually Irish. And no doubt this indicates the respective positions assumed by the Scotch and Irish inhabitants when they have been shaken together by a little jostling.

The Church of England has but few members, and the Presbyterians the largest number—about one-fifth of the population of 240,000 in the Province.

There is a vigorous branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, with fifty members—a nice, cheerful reading-room, well supplied with books and papers, and with lectures well attended, besides a weekly Bible-class, where there were thirty-six present last week.

The Newfoundland fishery causes many business men to pass through the hotel; and there is a peculiar air and conversation about these active people, who combine civility and frankness with a little Yankee smartness.

6

Nothing appears more strange to the traveller than to hear his fellow-subjects speaking in capital English of an utterly unknown subject, with new names for people and places. “We have got the ships at Richibuctoo and Miramici.” “Did the Attorney-General stop at Quicki Mash or Shediae?” “Where is the Chief Justice?—can he talk Mic-mac?” To-morrow is the

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election-day at Windsor, and travellers come from Truro. The very mention of the last two names makes the others appear more odd.

A number of fine black Newfoundland dogs are in the streets. The best breed of this noble species has webbed feet, and a tail curling round upon its back, with body and limbs unspotted by any single hair of white.

As we passed the Greenland coast in the steamer, a tin box, with an extract of telegraph news from England, was cast into the sea, and bobbed about over the waves, carrying a little red flag, which enabled a fast-sailing schooner to pick it up, and thus transmit the intelligence by the electric telegraph all through America. The internal bays are full of game; and one of 7 our passengers is to start with canoes and Indians to-morrow for a sporting tour on a river thickly wooded, and the favourite resort of reindeer and moose. He will live in his boat, or in a rude hut of bark, and half his time will be employed in wading, as he pushes the canoe over shallows, while the other half will be spent in cutting a way through the tangled jungle of tree-branches that block up the stream. This preserve is free only on the condition that no book may be written about it in England, which might attract less knowing cockneys to such pleasant sport. It is for this reason, that I may not give the precise latitude and longitude of the spot!

All this gossip, and a great deal more, one hears on board the noble Cunard steamer, in the place of nightly assembly called "the Fiddler," a covered space on deck.

I had a long conversation with some little black children to-day. Only one could read, but they seemed to comprehend very readily the simplest truths of the Bible. The Roman Catholic Archbishop, with numerous priests, works hard to keep the Bible from all children. 8 Romish influence is powerful here; and though the numbers of Romanists are small, they are swayed to and fro at a word, and easily turn the scales so evenly balanced between Whigs and Tories.

The Protestant Alliance of Nova Scotia will, I hope, take some vigorous and decided step to enlighten, and then direct, public opinion in relation to Popish proceedings. A nunnery forms a prominent object in the environs of the town; and the Romish Cathedral, with the Archbishop's house, asserts a position that cannot be ignored.

Another wooden house in the outskirts is remarkable from a better cause, as the birthplace of Sir J. Inglis, the hero of Lucknow. Sir W. Williams, of Kars, the witty judge, "Sam Slick," and Mr. Cunard, of steamboat fame, are all from this part of the world. The fresh sea-air playing on the fir-clad hills, fragrant with pine-rosin, makes the neighbouring creeks most charming for a country walk; and one cannot but expect the time when these quiet bays will be studded with the villas of Halifax, then a city ten times its present size.

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### CHAPTER II.

COLONIAL VOTERS—GROCERS AND TELEGRAPHS—POLITICAL BALLOON—  
CAPTAIN VICARS—TALKATIVE WAITER—FORKS AND RAKES—PRAYER MEETING  
—SWEARING.

SHOUTS and cheers assail the train as it rumbles along the new-made line, opened in June, the first railway here; and the moose-deer are scared in the thick forests as we pass, rousing the bears, and starting up the screaming waterfowl from a hundred lakes, tangled together by fresh streams, like silver network over the dark, rocky land.

There is a pretty village, with white wooden houses, so neat and clean, and its church with pointed spire. The woods are consumed with fire in patches for miles together, and only a few wet trunks stand after resisting the burning.

Here come a throng of honest voters, tramping their thick boots on the strong, rough platform of the station. "All aboard!" shouts the 10 conductor, and the stalwart politicians rush into the long carriage, where the tallest can walk upright down the long gangway

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through the middle of it. They have first-class tickets, and you cannot see a finer set of manly fellows, young, handsome, browned, and bearded, with intelligence, civility, and earnest freedom of manner, as well as of opinion. Then begins the clattering of tongues and the munching of onions. Three babies tune up another kind of music, and assert their independence before they know their names. In vain the mothers try to pacify them, by saying, "Here's the nigger coming?" but that fine, ruddy, frieze-coated Presbyterian, though a perfect stranger, instantly catches up a squalling infant, and soon puts it asleep in his great, thick arms. These long open carriages are certainly not the place for quiet travelling. They would never do for business men in England.

The electric telegraph joins a whole series of little villages, and you see the thing at work at the grocer's shop, where the lad who weighs you a pound of sugar speaks your messages along the wires. Then at Windsor a crowd buzzes 11 around the rum-shop, heartily discussing politics, and ready to hear an oration from the English stranger. This is a good opportunity for a word in season, and for the Scripture text-cards of the Open-air Mission and the *British Workman*, papers of which I brought a large supply from London, though a hundred more might be given every day with a good result, as the people here are delighted with them.

The youth of the town, including a sprinkling of "rowdies," next crowd around a great fire-balloon, eighteen feet high, that is to carry into the clouds the name of the successful candidate for the office of M.P.P., Member of the Provincial Parliament. Each member is paid £1 a-day during the session. This is what they do also in the Greek Parliament; and I recollect a modern Solon at Athens, who told me the result was, that the session began on January 1st and ended on the 31st of December.

It is very perplexing and amusing, to be cast suddenly into a mass of political imbroglio, without knowing anything of local interest; but there is one comfort, that this ignorance is not solitary, for I never found any of these valiant 12 voters who could tell the difference between Liberal and Tory, except that the side he supported was all right, and the other

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quite in the wrong. The elegant name of “smashers” is applied to the Government; but though the Popish organ in New Brunswick applies the word “smasherism” to anything done by the Government there, the Romanists seem to be on different sides in the two provinces. However, every person I speak to allows that the issue now is “Papist or Protestant,” and the large Irish immigration of late years makes this a serious matter.

Here and there, through the trees, the blue smoke curls from the trim little wooden cottages. The slips of shingle on their roofs soon get grey like slates, and the whole appearance of these thrifty-looking dwellings is very artistic and exceedingly attractive.

About one-third of the population is of Scotch extraction, and not a few recollected with much pleasure the 93rd Highland Regiment, quartered in Halifax just twenty years ago, when every one of them used to march to Church with his Bible and Presbyterian Psalm-book, and where 13 nearly seven hundred once partook of the Sacrament together. Captain Vicars of the 97th, and Captain Hammond of the Rifles, are also well remembered names, signaling men who ran a short but bright career of sanctified soldier-life. The Rev. Dr. Twining, who has laboured so long and usefully among the military committed to his care in spiritual things, must be much encouraged by the testimony such men have borne before the whole world to the truth of that Gospel which they were taught in his ministration.

The Union Jack floats from the Victoria Hotel at Windsor, and there is a panorama of India in the dining-room, where all travellers must take their meals at the same hours, or they have a poor chance of getting any. The gong, or a bell, is rung loudly among the bed-rooms to waken us at seven, and again at eight for breakfast, one o'clock to dinner, and six for tea. This sort of music is an advance on that at another place, where the waiter “called us” by slapping every door with a slipper, saying, “Get up! Get up!” Oatmeal porridge, or “hominy,” as some call it, is on the table, with various meats 14 and large dishes of mountain strawberries with cream. The waiter is very talkative, and gives his idea of anything you please. “Now, young gentleman,” says he, “what may I get for you? Mr.



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Johnson, it is quite clear you do not get on with that chop; let me fetch you another better done." "Ale, Sir? Yes, Sir, that comes from England, the mistress of the world, but all allow that our brew here is better; not that I judge it so, though I really don't care for malt liquor." "Sundays, Sir? Yes, I always get at least an hour for Divine service—couldn't think of an engagement, Sir, where I can't go to church—'no church' may be good to live by, but it is bad to die by." "Mr. Peters, here's a clean plate. There is no lack, Sir, of clean plates at this establishment, Sir; nor of clean knives, Sir."

Very often the guests say "Sir" to the waiter.

If any observant traveller who has scanned the usual routes through Europe, Syria, and Egypt, and got used to *table d'hôte* life, wants an entirely new sensation, a new field for notice, and new ideas of locomotion and hotel intercourse, let him by all means hie to the setting sun and visit Acadia, Westward ho! But far more valuable and interesting is the continuous and effective means for good which he finds when journeying through a people constantly ready to converse, and whom he can always address in his own language. The traveller is at once bound to become a missionary; and a hundred times a day he may easily find men glad to hear the best of all news, and often willing to converse at length on the highest of all topics.

A great many implements much used here are imported from the United States; but they ought to be made in the Province. The large fields are often mowed by a machine drawn by two horses, which cuts and spreads the grass, that is afterwards turned over by very light rakes, far more easily handled than our heavy English hay-rakes. The forks, too, are strong, thin, cast-steel; and these improved implements seem much more generally used than in Britain. Light, strong carts, sometimes drawn by bullocks, take the hay, in a very green state, to covered sheds. Some of the land near Windsor 16 is sold for £75 an acre. In far-off Kansas, an acre was offered to me for 2½ d. !

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At this town, I went to a prayer-meeting on Friday evening, being attracted by the bell in the graceful wooden spire of a Methodist church. About forty women and twenty men attended, and the minister opened and closed the service; but seven others of his flock prayed at intervals between the hymns. Except one, these prayers were all excellent, and offered by plain workingmen in rough coats. They informed me that a revival has begun here.

I could not help calling their most serious attention to the dreadful sin of blasphemy, which is remarkably prevalent. I have heard more profanity and swearing during a few days, than during years in London, even in the very ungodly company which one must encounter who frequents the infidel gatherings of the great metropolis.

The vice here proceeds chiefly, I think, from thoughtlessness, and not from avowed unbelief; for a mild remonstrance, and even downright rebuke, is listened to respectfully, and its justice acknowledged. One of the worst swearers, indeed, 17 assured me that he was a good Presbyterian, and attended church every week. I fear that proximity to "the States" may be the cause of much of this fearful blasphemy. A number of fine young men, and scores of boys, hang about the roads in the evenings; and both are of a class that we seldom see thus congregated in England. Here the hours of work are short, and leisure long; and very few men, indeed, have not good coats on their backs. A Young Men's Society could easily be formed with such materials. Every time I have proposed this in addressing these groups, the suggestion has been well received. A missionary from any society, that could stately set to work in this matter, would soon see abundant reason for an extended and profitable tour. Finding five boys in one day who are not even learning to read, I told some good young men about the Ragged-schools. It is hoped that some of the Sunday-school teachers will open a class for ten poor lads, twice a week. A revival that leaves such opportunities untouched, may become a mere spiritual luxury. Every Scripture precept and example seems to point to active C 18 missionary work as the unfailing attendant upon religious impressions, if they are genuine and Christian.

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The loquacious waiter (already mentioned) tells me that everybody in the Province is loyal; and then he runs along the table, saying to a meek-looking, silent traveller:

“Come, Mr. Peters, you are not speaking at all there; I fear you cannot be well.”

Outside, there is a black woman, with dress of the gayest hues, and most profound in gravity, as she lights her clay pipe. Behind her is a shop, with a ham hanging at the window, whitewashed and printed with these words, “I am very spicy,” while around, there is a noisy group of strong men neatly dressed, smiling women, laughing rosy children, and huge black dogs, under the tree where the beautiful fire-flies are dancing in fairy maze. The whole is a mixture of peaceful strength, with a charm of poetry that is quite new to one who has never heard the Saxon tongue in such romantic scenes. But just as I write these very words, a man calls, “Hurrah for Benjamin Smith?” Another strikes him. Ten drunken “rowdies” rush to the fray. A loud dispute begins. Heads of women pop out of the windows, and blows and scuffling ensue, with fearful oaths. A man is down, with a bloody face; and all is begun, continued, and ended, without anybody presuming to keep order. There is not one single policeman or soldier for all these 2,000 people. Verily the Saxon race alone could keep within any bound whatever, with such licence allowed. And what has caused all this noise, quarrelling, blasphemy, and blood? Drink.

In New Brunswick, within the last seven years, the quantity of spirits consumed has multiplied ten times. A description called “White Eye” is sent from the States, and the soldiers, who get intoxicated with it, have to go to the hospital for two or three days.

In eight hours, the steamer carried us 140 miles to St. John, which is a bustling town with a noble river and a suspension bridge, just open, spanning a greater width than that of Hungerford. A small congregation in the morning heard an excellent sermon from the Rev. Mr. Ferry (Free Church), and a large congregation attended the Church of England service, where the Rev. Dr. Gray preached in the evening.

Every kind of business seemed entirely at rest on Sunday.

### CHAPTER III.

NEW BRUNSWICK—IN A CANOE—THE TAMARASKA—A STORM—A SKUNK—A WISE DOG—THE MIRAGE—QUEBEC.

THE Church of England Young Men's Christian Society of St. John, New Brunswick, seems to be very flourishing and useful. The members I met comprised exactly those classes which may give and derive profit by frequent association; and by a closer affiliation to the London Society, we may hope for many benefits between the bustling town of "lumber" and the "old country," as they always call it. With two Canadian friends, I journeyed up the St. John River and crossed the province for three or four hundred miles, chiefly through thick woods in country waggons, jolting horribly over the rough roads. This is the route to be taken by the railway lately so much approved by the English papers. Once, when I was 22 driving alone, a negro hailed me, "Give me a drive, Sir, please;" so we had a long ride together; and he told me as much in a short time as showed that a woolly skull can hold good sense and accurate information. Still the people do not speak well of poor Sambo.

As the Americans are often styled Yankees in England, the Nova Scotians are called "Blue-noses" here, while the Canadians are all "Beavers," and "Buckeyes" come from Ohio.

Fredericton, the capital of New Brunswick, has a neat little cathedral, filled with sweet music, as the evening sun warmed the windows of painted glass, and gave an hour of resting from the hard day's work in the heat.

Here we visited Judge Wilmot, who seems scarcely to forget his political days in the beautiful country-seat he has planted and carpentered with his own hands. His colony of bees buzzing about their delicious honey as we feed on the comb, his roses and pinks,

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and cedar summer-house, his daughter's music, and his keen but benevolent eye, give to us a pleasant picture of colonial judicial domestic life.

All reasonable men here seem thoroughly alive to the necessity of the Reformatory action, so lately but so widely in operation at home. A large Reformatory has been commenced at Montreal, and it seems there are plenty of bad boys to fill it.

We had to paddle over Lake Tameasquota in a canoe, which is a very bad sort of boat when there is the least wind. The true Indian canoe is made of bark; and I soon found it easy to manage when alone. But the Frenchmen cut their boat out of a solid log; and in this four of us paddled up a beautiful stream, the Tamaraska, at a rapid pace. The wind on the lake soon rose and nearly filled the canoe, so that all our efforts to bale it out were useless; and we landed three times to right our little craft. Swarms of fish leap about in the streamlets near the lake, and I caught four trout in one pool with a twig for a rod, extemporised on the moment. Our sleeping-places were at settlers' houses, French our language, and eggs our food.

But the brave little horses hurry along even a springless cart on a moonless night. In all the finer sagacity of the horse, that universal animal seems to degenerate as it is kept with civilised man. The Arab steed, the Norwegian pony, the Spanish barb, and the Syrian horse are worth, in times of difficulty, far more than any well-housed hunter, or the best racer of the stud.

As I had come away without preparation for this forest journey, and with only a knapsack as my luggage, it was necessary to refit at a little village; and it was very amusing to find that the principal "store" could furnish only a shirt-collar *made of paper*, but so neatly stamped as with a hem, that it is little wonder if the American dandies keep up a brisk demand for this curious article, which costs less than the price of washing a linen one "*bonâ fide*." An Indian settlement on the river had a great red cross planted before it, with the emblems of the Crucifixion, so often seen in Romish countries. Most of the Indians

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are Romanists, and so, indeed, are the white people in that forest district, where we found the priests ever diligent, and did not meet with or hear of any Protestant missionaries. The woods are silent; very few birds, but the kingfisher and bat, seemed to tenant them. 25 The polecat, or skunk, left its strange scent to taint the fresh breeze here and there. A farmer told me that one killed half a mile from his hut had been so offensive for a month, that he could scarcely eat his breakfast. Bears also abound; and the priest of one village asserts he has the power to turn the recusant sheep of his flock into bears. One man had a dog, which would take written messages to any house he named, and return with the article required; or if you gave him a penny, he would trot off and buy his dinner. Timber—or “lumber,” as I must learn to call it—is the centre-point of all the interest, and hopes, and fears of these brawny settlers. It is too much their dependence, for a little slackening of the demand throws hundreds on half-work; and the steadier duties of farming are thus neglected for the more fitful gains of wood-chopping.

Judge Wilmot has done much to enlighten these people on many subjects, and gives lectures to crowded audiences, who are delighted with the diagrams, painted on calico, and published in London. A lecture by somebody else, of the Bible Society, seemed to have made a 26 decided impression on some with whom I conversed; and there certainly is a large field open in this direction for one who desires to improve the evenings of a pleasant holiday tour.

The telegraph wires are carried even through these remote forests; and it was in one of these places we heard first of the successful laying of the Atlantic cable. The telegraphist could scarcely believe it; but in less than one minute he had asked and got an answer to his question through 500 miles of wire, which gave the assurance that it was even so, “all right;” and everyone appeared to have unmixed joy at the pleasant annihilation of the distance between their adopted land and their English “home.” A little beerhouse in such places elevates itself to an hotel, and paints “Gents' Parlour” over one door, while two doors off there is “The Commercial Bank,” a hut with only one window, and the whole of which would go into a bedroom. We came out on the St. Lawrence at River de Loup,

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where on Sunday a priest played polkas and waltzes on the seraphine in a huge Romish church. For the last four days I have not seen one negro; but the last we met, 27 was a splendid specimen of a handsome man, and his wages were one dollar a day.

The Pilgrim Islands on the St. Lawrence are famed for the frequent *mirage* which glows around them, and causes an inverted image to be seen faithfully depicted in the sky above. So accurate is this image, that ships may be observed upon an upturned sea long before they are visible upon the natural horizon. We speed over this in a fast steamer, with deck piled over deck; and new faces and new subjects for talk amply fill up the time, until Quebec's narrow streets and lofty citadel seem to assure us, that now at length we have reached old Europe again; but the British flag and red-coated soldiers with French-speaking shopkeepers again confound our ideas, and, finally, the mind is made up that it is neither England nor the "Continent," but Canada that can produce such an anomaly.

Yes; we are in Canada, not England. The streets with plank pavement and always uphill; houses with bright tin roofs; reading-room with Kentucky papers and the *Record*; policemen with caps and blue batons; *calêches* with driver on the footboard, whom you call "Captain;" 28 steamers with engines on the upper deck; Indians with Christian hats even on their "squaws"; horses with numbers on their foreheads; shops with French and English signboards;—all these are features that tell of a mixed race, a new people, and a foreign clime. Let us read the characters a little nearer. But lo! the American visitors rush out of the hotel at the first bugle blast, to see "regular soldiers" mount guard. The others go off to the races, and nobody is left but me to look over the beautiful river.

### CHAPTER IV.

EMIGRANTS—RAILWAYS—RAGGED SCHOOL GIRLS—BOYS' LETTERS—LONGEST BRIDGE IN THE WORLD—SOLDIERS' READING-ROOM—OTTAWA—ADVENTURE.

THE captain of the water police, at Quebec, became communicative in the dark as I waited for the steamer. His trusty boats patrol night and day to keep boy-beating sailors in order.

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Each of the crew has 7s. per diem, and the coxswain of each boat 9s. pay. Last year, common labourers had 10s. a-day, and even boys received 7s. This season, everything is depressed, and the pay of labourers is 3s. 6d., and that only for the summer. The winter of six months is nearly idle.

Men who emigrate to Canada, and expect good pay without hard work, get disheartened, and often go back to Britain. Many of these disappointed emigrants are Irish, who do better in their own country. Bone and sinew, common sense, and ability to weather the first year, are the requisites for the emigrants most needful and most likely to succeed. Skilled labourers, mechanics, clerks, and young men “ready to do anything,” are by no means bettered by rushing out to the Colonies. Soldiers often enlist in Britain with the intention of deserting her. The worthy captain had been a private in the Guards, then took land at Quebec, and finally ruled the police there, while he brought up three sons as medical men, sending each of them to Edinburgh for education.

The disturbances in the population are usually among the Irish; but the high penalty of 5 *l.* terrifies the brawler from street drunkenness. When an emigrant settles on the “concession,” of land, and sets to work to clear it, his neighbours generally help him freely. They come together when a “bee” is called. Some bring horses, or oxen, or carts, most of them tools, and all bring willing hands, whose work for their new friend is always hearty and unanimous, so that his log-house may be raised even in a day.

31

Passing through tribes of black-looking priests, carrying books and dressed in long robes, we descend the “break-neck stairs,” very like those in Malta, and a fast little sailing-boat skims along, the tide bearing us to the Isle of Orleans.

Here are fleets of stately vessels, sometimes sixty new ones in a day, sailing hundreds of miles inland, and there floats by a raft of deals, with huts like large dog-kennels upon it, to house the men who navigate the mass of timber for weeks; and it is worth 10,000 *l.*



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The steamboats are after the Yankee build, with the huge engine on deck, and two decks built high up in the air, with long eaved balconies, all painted white, and very sure to labour tremendously if not driven to port by a strong breeze. Then the deep tone of the railway whistle is not like our English engine shriek, with the drivers and firemen enclosed in a little room by the furnace, and a great bell booming as the train passes a road-crossing, the railway scarcely fenced at all. Behind it come half-a-dozen very long "cars," resting on wheeled framework at each end, and with the 32 first-class full of second-class folks, "and even blacks," while the second-class is filled with tobacco-smoke, curling out as the door slams at the end, to let in the guard dressed without uniform. A washing-room is in the first-class carriage, and a tub of drinking-water in the second-class.

### GREAT-WESTERN RAILWAY GUARD.

Round the first-class are some pegs, but few places for hats, umbrellas, parcels, and the etceteras that make an English railway seem your furnished home for the time being. Great 33 noise, bottles applied to thirsty mouths, gusts of dusty wind, and scorching darts of sunshine, with a rumbling, a shaking, and clamour of voices, make these conveyances far better for observing character, or getting headaches and colds, than for chatting with fellow-travellers, or reading the paper. But you may travel first-class for 12s. 6d., over 170 miles, and enter the Hotel with full purse, calling out "Colonel" to the landlord, as he passes the other door, labelled "Ladies' Entrance" to the "House" or "Hall," as the veriest inn is called.

The falls of Montmorency are nearly opposite the pretty cottage where we find Mr. Buchanan, who, for many years, has done excellent service as the Government Emigration Agent, and has very kindly helped and advised many a poor lad sent from the English Reformatories, and Ragged-schools. The report of these emigrants' success is very encouraging. Boys well-taught, respectful, healthy, and furnished with a little money to "go west," may still come out in thousands with the certainty of good wages. As for girls, they are in such high request for domestic service, that even D 34 untaught workhouse

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women come in hundreds at a time, and find places. The girls lately sent from St. Giles' Refuge, London, could scarcely get to their intended destination, they were so readily hired.

Yet a little more method may be used with advantage in this matter, on both sides of the Atlantic. Hardly an instance occurs in which a boy follows out here the trade he has been taught, or half taught, at home. His industrial education, therefore, should be ordered as a discipline for promoting labour-notions, and strengthening mind, body, and morals, and not designed to perfect artizanship. His shoe-making, tailoring, and carpentering may be brought constantly into frequent use; but his trade is to be a farmer's lad, and work at anything and everything that a rough, steady boy can be trusted to do.

The boy should not be directed irrevocably in England to go definitively to any one place in Canada, unless an actual vacancy, worth his acceptance, is settled for him; but the Emigration agents in Quebec, Toronto, Hamilton, and elsewhere, may be safely trusted to direct the 35 lad where to seek for employment, with the best chance of success. Many situations seem tempting from their high wages, when, in fact, the boy who engages himself to them, will be infallibly turned adrift in the winter. It seems quite clear, that nothing is wanted here in the nature of an institution or association to secure good places for these young emigrants, who appear already to receive all the help and advice which could be offered with advantage. The clergy, in the further country settlements, may, however, be more systematically interested in these boys, so as to secure friends to whom they may apply in times of doubt or difficulty, as well as guides, always more or less useful to the young. A girl can readily get 12s. 6d. a month, besides her board; and, as she can be brought to her place from England at the expense of 6 *l.*, it is really incumbent on all our British philanthropists, to urge and help Emigration far more extensively, seeing, that for less than a year's expense at an institution, in England, many of its inmates may be permanently located in comfortable situations in Canada.

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Many of these emigrants appear to have written often to England without any reply from the kind teachers who were anxious to correspond with them. The miscarriage of letters both to and from the old country is an important matter; but from all that I can learn it is always the fault of the emigrants, who address their letters incorrectly and change their situations without proper notification here or in England of their new quarters. The large number of ill-defined and harassing applications made on this subject to Mr. Buchanan do not seem to have abated his benevolent readiness to render every help; and he has kindly offered to forward letters as well as possible, if addressed to his care. Some of the addresses must be rather puzzling to the "blind man" at the post-office, such, for example, as "My son James Canada with one eye," which is nearly as bad as one that was written on a letter addressed to "Jim Sykes in England him as was at Field-lane." Letters need not be pre-paid either here or in England. I hope to learn from the boys and girls themselves some more particulars as to their difficulties with respect to letters; but meantime it is well to know 37 that the authorities are not in fault, and that help, rather than obstacles, may always be expected from *them*.

Let us continue to send out boys and girls in small batches, but far more frequently despatching them so as to arrive here in the months of May and June, and giving a little money and much power to the kind discretion of the agent, who will certainly do far better in appointing the emigrant's route than anybody at home.

The great tubular bridge at Montreal will be nearly two miles long, and by far the largest in the world. Good lithographic drawings of it are seen in many London shops; and it will be a work of science and art of which Canada may be proud. Among the energetic and able men who urge such useful undertakings with perseverance is the Hon. J. Young, who is as hospitable as he is clever. Hundreds of country gentlemen in England might envy Rosemount, the beautiful mansion of Mr. Young; and many a father would be glad to have such children as sport themselves in his sunny garden on a summer's eve. I dined at the mess of the 17th Regiment, where Colonel Cole mentioned that 38 since he had

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established a reading-room for his men, the crime of the regiment had steadily decreased to one-half of its former amount. Surely such a means of good, which costs less than £20, might be tried with similar success in other regiments. Every good example may be noted for encouragement; and we find nearly 100 soldiers attending the Soldiers' Institute in London for the Guards.

I called on several leading members of the Church of England Young Men's Society of Montreal, which has about 300 in its ranks, and provides them an excellent room, far better than most of those of similar Societies in London. I promised also to address a Meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association in a day or two, and on Sunday I had the pleasure of addressing the schools of the Free Church of Scotland and Zion Chapel Congregationalists. The papers brought from England are eagerly received on such occasions, especially those of the Shoeblack Society, the Protestant Alliance, the Open-air Mission, and the Pure Literature Society, which last I have given to book-shops in country villages.

39

Ottawa is the little town fixed upon for the future seat of united Government, though it is not yet accepted as such in Canada. The railway runs to it, through 160 miles of forest, and the grass grows luxuriantly between the rails. The place has 10,000 inhabitants, whose neat houses dot the tree-clad rocks around the magnificent falls, and gushing water pours along the mill-races, where I found it rather a delicate matter to urge my little bark canoe alone. I know not in any country a prettier site for a capital city. Even in this place there are six newspapers published, and no policemen. Some time since, the Society of Arts in London offered a prize of £20, for the best writing-case for soldiers and emigrants. Well, in this tiny capital I find a Scotch woman keeping a book shop, and selling "The York Shilling (7½d.) Papeterie, containing 12 sheets of writing paper, 12 adhesive envelopes, 3 steel pens, a pen-holder, blotting-paper, and a bottle of ink." You could not get these articles for twice the money in Rome, Naples, Florence, or Madrid. I set off in the early fog of morning by steamer, with a picnic given by 40 three Volunteer Corps, British

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Rifles and French Canadian Rifles in green uniform, and Artillery clothed like our own. With these a host of mothers, sisters, wives, and cousins, and more than a proportion of sweethearts, who soon began to dance on the upper deck before breakfast. The crowd was too much for the boat, and as it swayed her to and fro, the captain got alarmed and lost his head, while the officers of the Volunteers forgot all discipline and gave all sorts of contradictory orders. "Keep steady in the middle," said one; "This side, come to this side," cried another; "Hallo there, come to the main galleries," shouted a third bearded colonist, with his steel scabbard rattling on the chain cable. All this made matters so much worse that the boat heeled over very deeply, and the water gushed in by the cabin windows till it filled the hold and reached the engine fires. Although we had not gone twenty miles, and the pic-nic was arranged for a place several miles distant, there was nothing for it but to run the great vessel ashore on a sandy beach beside a little hut, whose occupants ran out in amazement at the sight of 300 visitors. A canoe and 41 some boats began to land the ladies. The gallant militaires jumped into the water and extemporized a pier out of logs, casks, and a waggon seized in a field. I never saw so great confusion, though the danger being now over the excitement rebounded to a sort of frenzied hilarity. Scores of tall Volunteers waded, carrying crates of provisions and hampers of pies; one man bore the big drum on his head, while others thumped it. Guns firing, women shrieking. men tumbling about with laughter in the shallow water, trumpets clanging, and children squalling, while a long line of rescued passengers filed through the wood to some shady rendezvous, where no doubt the party were as happy as if they had all gone safely to their proper landing. All this was a strange preparation for the address I gave in the evening to a large meeting in Zion Church, the scene of the Gavazzi riots, a very commodious building, as indeed most of the well built public edifices seem to be. The churches have exquisitely formed spires all gleaming with bright tin covering which preserves its brilliancy for twenty years. The clanging of shop-shutters resounds as the sun goes down, and the reddened 42 west is reflected coolly on the noble river studded with fishing-boats or Indian canoes slowly paddling to their bark huts yonder, where the blue smoke curls by the water's brink,

and the fish leap freely in the glassy pools. Adieu, good brothers in Canada, you are near our English hearts.

43

## CHAPTER V.

AMERICAN FASHIONABLES—SILENT YANKEES—AN EATING RACE—HOW TO SEE NIAGARA—SAMBO AND A CRISIS—TORONTO—AN ELECTION—THE TELEGRAPH CABLE—GAOL BIRDS.

AND so this is Saratoga, United States, the well-known fashionable watering-place with American society in its most startling form. Huge hotels stretch piazzas along the trees in the streets, and a buzz of smoking, wide-awaked men and ladies, with alarming circumferences, but without any bonnets, move about as if the whole town were the grounds of a private house. Even in Spain (not to say France), I defy you to find such an upturning of all our conventional notions of woman's outdoor life.

And yet all is managed with propriety, however little good taste there may be in parading the streets with bare arms, thin gauze-like ball dresses, and nothing on your head.

44

A great deal of money, time, and energy, must be expended here; and while a merry party may joyously recruit themselves at this, as at other spas, it is a very melancholy affair for a poor lonely bachelor to go on drinking the odorous water, and observing all around without one word.

I do not find the Americans, by any means, so communicative as they are represented. In the "cars," the din of the railway stops all conversation that is not very emphatic. At their meals, there is an impressive silence until the clatter of plates is finished by one guest or another drawing away his chair, to get up, with a hoarse, unsocial, grating sound on the boards of the great hall, that contrasts most painfully with the genial pose of John

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Bull when he turns half round after dinner, and unlocks his taciturn soul to all comers. In the steamboat, again, the various groups are so dissevered, that a stranger has very little opportunity of entering into downright conversation, as in England, on the Rhine, or throughout the Mediterranean.

A quiet half-hour after every meal, would be a specific for much of that restlessness which 45 every American seems born to; and hence, perhaps, the thin-limbed men and pale women of the great republic. One of those voracious citizens said, "I tell you what it is, Sir, I guess I have a good appetite, and can finish my dinner any day in seven minutes." "Oh, that's nothing!" answered a sarcastic Briton; "I have a hound that can bolt his dinner in three!" In another place two Yankees tried a race at dinner; but one pushed the pepper-castor under the other's nose—he gave one cough, and lost the race.

The new building for the University at Toronto, when finished, will be a remarkable edifice, unique in appearance. There is a college for almost every religious denomination; but that for the Church of England—Trinity College—is separate from the rest, for reasons which are far too intricate for me to begin a discussion about, without very soon committing numerous mistakes. I have met only four Episcopal clergy of the States, and they all seemed to be decidedly High Church; and, no doubt, were startled by the Open-air Mission Reports that I ventured to give them. But, in 46 Toronto, clergy and ministers of all the Evangelical bodies, readily gave a hearing to an account of London work; and a meeting in their largest church, listened with interest to "Christian news from England."

I saw Niagara to very great advantage in magnificent weather, with a full moon at night and the water higher than it has been for forty years. This is one of the few sights that cannot disappoint the most elevated anticipations. The beauty of the scene is not sufficiently insisted upon, when it is continually described, in relation to its sublimity. From the first view of it, you discard the idea of a waterfall, and look upon the great thing before you as a totally new event, sight and sound giving new impressions, and assuming to itself at once an air of personality, by which every part becomes a living member of an

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overpowering whole. You cannot help feeling a sympathy for the waters of the river before they fall. Hurried down the rapids, they seem to cling with desperate tenacity to the islets, and eddy round the rocks to escape their doom. But all these efforts are vain; and there is a resigned calm of despair just before the 47 awful leap, and after it, again, the writhing of foam in agony, leaping from the pool below, and moving once more sullenly onwards, with an humbled, heartbroken look.

The best part of the falls, and the best views, are all on the Canadian side; but everybody who wishes to see it all thoroughly gets into a little steamboat, to go right into the foam of the falls. For this everybody puts on an oilskin cloak, and everybody looks like a hooded monk, and everybody becomes aware that you can't see the waterfall for the water. Still it is the only view of Niagara not seen in every album, and so you will find it over leaf.\* Below the falls, the banks approach so near that one may see the "darkies" on the American rocks, who would be free for ever, if they could cross this river. And they do cross it constantly. Only a few days ago, two runaway slaves made good their liberty; and, as they left the other side, no doubt they hummed the tune of "the land of the brave and the free," as it is foolishly called by our good friends, whose flag has

\* The tower above is reached by a craggy bridge. Termination Rock has since been carried away (December, 1858).

48 "stars" for the white, and "stripes" for the black.

### NIAGARA.

The most reliable information I can obtain from all sources, agrees in the statement, that 49 free blacks appear far less frequently in police cases, or other indications of bad behaviour, than the proportion of their numbers might warrant. This is more than ought to be expected of a race downtrodden for generations; for how low should we white folk sink, if we had been treated like the negroes! These men have two churches in Hamilton, and their interest is sufficiently important in Toronto, to cause electioneering calculations



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always to estimate the “coloured vote.” Indeed, they had the walls of the town covered with placards, summoning a political meeting of their tribe; and thus, while they are peaceable, they are also not forgetful of their political privileges as British subjects. “Sambo” is usually a very staunch Tory. He votes for the Tory, even if the candidate is not a friend of the negro. He excels in light handiwork, and is very clever at the important business of whitewashing the interior of houses, a feat he can perform without requiring any of the drawing-room furniture to be removed. There is a “crisis” here just now. By-the-bye were you ever at any place where there was not a “crisis” just at that moment? The great political crisis in Canada may best be understood at a distance. It is utterly beyond me to make anything of it, looking at all sides from within. If the Romanists all took one side, as they usually do, I should know, of course, that the *other side* was the right one to wish well for. But even the Romanists are divided in this case.

I got a sketch of the hustings on nomination day, when the two candidates spoke in dumb show to 3,000 very remarkable-looking mobsmen, whose various types of dress, feature, speech, colour, and manner, it would be difficult to describe.

The cable-joy, or telegraph-ecstasy, of our American cousins, seems boundless, though it is only beginning. It has all the absurdities that fringe many solid sentiments here. A Chicago paper says, “The world is finished, its spinal cord is laid, and now it begins to *think!*” Another: “A cable it is, indeed! To it is attached the best bower anchor let down deep in the hearts of two great nations, and its flukes are embedded among their living fibres.” The *Buffalo Republic* writes: “How shall the heart of Buffalo contain its immeasurable felicity? How shall the Queen 51 city find vent for her surcharged feelings?” A Philadelphia paper says: “Obviously the sun and moon are now effete; and leaving the small system called solar, we must mark our time and take our guides among eternal suns.” Another announces: “Unless we have a national jubilee, the pressure will burst the boiler of the American Republic, and lay out the American Eagle ‘dead as a wedge.’” Among the various great public bodies who have already celebrated the cable, there was

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a procession in Massachusetts of “fat men,” who marched to the top of the Hog's Backhill, “no person under 210 pounds being allowed to join.” The following was the programme:—

The Deacon. Fat men weighing 280 pounds. Fat men weighing 250 pounds. Common fat men weighing but 220 pounds. Mortified fat men weighing but 210 pounds.

But our fat friends, and lean ones, too, seem prone to forget, that the cable was not laid by them alone; that five out of six of the vessels employed were British; that the cable was made in England, and carried from British soil to British soil, chiefly by British capital.

52

Among the tombstones in the Saratoga cemetery, I noticed one which had a photograph of the deceased person conspicuously set in the top of the marble slab. “The young Lords” from England, now visiting America, are said to be “the rage of the season;” and a story is in print, of the amazement with which a democratic belle heard that the father of one of these noble youths actually sometimes calls him “Freddy.”

I had much satisfaction in renewing acquaintance with several professed thieves and “gaol birds,” who had emigrated to Canada from one or other of our English reformatories. Out of about fourteen thus visited, I think only *one* is not doing well.

Some of these interesting young people were, of course, not criminals, but merely destitute in England. One is in a post of trust in a public office. Of another, once a shoe-black, we had lost intelligence for some years; but I accidentally recognised him driving a carriage, and this fine, tall young artilleryman jumped down from his box, with all the feelings revived of his daily stand, in a red jacket, at the Royal Exchange. Another politely offered to drive me 53 round the country in his master's gig; and two were actually married to partners of their prosperity.

Seven girls, sent out some months ago from St. Giles's Refuge, were well placed in Hamilton by the worthy Matron, who came over from London twice with her pupils. These

young servants I met in a body, and the difference between their blue frocks in St. Giles's, and their somewhat showy dresses in Canada, was fully borne out by their happy faces full of gratitude. One of them sends back a present to her London pastor, in the shape of a butterfly long preserved; another sends an Indian peacock's feather. All the girls are kindly supervised by a good lady, who allows them to visit her on Sunday evenings.

Emigration, when thus properly conducted, is an enormous benefit. The Government agent at Hamilton strongly recommends, that fifty boys should be sent from England to a far-off backwood settlement, where they could be trained to hardy farm labour, which is precisely the training they get least of at home, and are most desired to have here.

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### CHAPTER VI.

BROADWAY—TELEGRAPH SERMON—A DAY IN THE SLUMS—TATTOOED  
SHOEBLACKS—BOY POLICE—SUNDAY BAND—LEE AVENUE SCHOOL—A PIC-NIC.

MANY parts styled fine scenery in the States, seem to comprise much that is worth notice, without any decidedly overpowering points except those like Niagara that are world-wide in notability. The voyage down the Hudson is thus full of interest, and like the Norwegian scenery pleases continuously without ever carrying you away in rapture. The entire omission of old castles and ivy-coloured battlements is as much felt by the European traveller here, as the constant addition of these features must be an extraordinary luxury to the American tourist in Europe.

And now, having left Canada behind, I shall resist the temptation to moralise about it at length. It is a land deeply impressive, because 55 even more in the future than these States, which have almost caught up the present age.

When they have quite overtaken the jog-trot of Europe, the Yankees will cease to think themselves always a-head. The best informed of them are ever the most moderate and

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reasonable in judging themselves. An American, before and after he has visited Europe, is like two different persons.

New York resembles, in form, a turbot, with its head to the south, a river on each side in which lie its fins, the wooden wharves serrated with shipping. The backbone of the fish represents Broadway, and the ribs are the numerous streets across, while the eye is a green spot of trees and badly kept grass, the mouth is a fort, and in the tail are the northern suburbs.

Broadway is as long and broad as Oxford-street, but far more imposing. The houses are like those on the Boulevards of Paris, but without so many balconies. At each end is the spire of a fine church, and the street is slightly curved, both in level and direction, so as very much to increase its beauty. Few things appear to me more disadvantageous than a long, level, straight, street, unless it has very great width.

The white marble, brick, brown stone, painted iron, and various coloured houses are brilliant in tints, lofty in proportions, very much set off by a bright atmosphere, streamers flying, painted signboards, white omnibuses, and well-dressed people. Almost the whole length of the street has shops on the ground-floor, and many are good, while about twenty seem of the highest class. At this season of the year one expects to find few private carriages or ladies in this street, and the expectation is fulfilled. There are also very few heavy waggons, and no great-teamed vehicles to denote commercial traffic, for all this is carried on in other parallel streets. But the foot-pavement of Broadway is very inferior to its shops and stores, much more so than in any street I can recollect in any town. As far as shops go and general promenades, Broadway is New York,—once leave it and you are in a totally different style. The Fifth Avenue and other fine streets are a little further off. The roadway in most of the other streets adjoining is very disgraceful, with huge blocks in some, great puddles in others, while deep holes in the ample foot pavement keep you always looking downwards picking your steps. It seems as if the cost of one of these fine “stores” with fifty windows and walls of carved marble would pay for a proper pavement for

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the whole street. Probably this incongruity is a symbol of the difference between private enterprise and public official negligence. The public buildings of New York are inferior to the character of the town, while the private buildings and their furniture seem beyond the other features of the people. Equipages and dress in general assume the French style; and, perhaps, what is required by the English eye, is not a fair standard to judge by. Take it as a whole, Broadway seems to comprise as much of beauty in colour, bustle, *luxe*, business, and cheerful variety combined, as any single street in the Old World.

I heard a "Telegraph Sermon" at Trinity Church, where good music and a large and very attentive congregation constituted the circumstances of a very useless discourse. But it was indeed refreshing to dive into the Five Points district, and visit the Mission-schools, and see 58 there the same lively zeal in teaching the miserable that brightens even the darkest spots in English towns. The filth and disorder of the New York "slums" look worse than anything in London or Dublin, chiefly because they are within a few yards, nay, even inches, of the marble palaces, and because the people are not ragged, nor their lanes narrow, nor their houses of that hopeless, dull colour, that begets utter despair when you reach such localities in Southwark or the Liberties. In London, the vastness and the consistency of the whole panorama of poverty give an air of settled firmness which makes you wonder how it can ever be improved.

Here the poor localities are so small in area, so out of keeping with houses still quite new, and apparently so manageable, by their proximity to opulence, that the wonder is how these wretched scenes can stand for a day unbettered. The bad smells and abundant dirt are certainly worse than in any part of London. The schools are better ventilated, furnished, and cleaned than any in London designed for the poorest class. There is, in the Five Points, answering to our Seven Dials, the Wesleyan School for the 59 ragged children, and another, within a few yards, crowded with well-dressed visitors, a sight that is not to be seen in Britain. The children are nearly all American. I could sit for hours

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examining the indescribable but very evident difference between their looks, manners, dress, and whole bearing, and the corresponding features in any English ragged-school.

I don't think that the real Irish ragged boy here has as yet been detached from the priest; and, though many may be in certain schools, I found every little Paddy I spoke to went to a Popish one. The first three of this genus I came upon were all shoeblacks. One showed the badge of his order, in the shape of some cabalistic marks tattooed in his skin, which he said cost one shilling, and was executed by some master of the art. He said nobody was allowed in their society who could not open his shirt sleeve and show this mark; but I found plenty other freebooters who plied their craft without the trade-mark. In one excellent school there are twenty-five Monitor boys elected by the others. These have four captains and lieutenants, and form a little body of juvenile police, 60 who are bound to keep order outside and in the school. Each has a bright metal star on his breast, with a chain to his jacket-collar, exactly resembling the New York police introduced (by considerable disturbance) last year. These boy-police have fixed hours, and posts of duty in school; and, if the admirable order preserved is due to this regulation, then I must say it is a desirable institution, and ought to be imitated. The whole school is devoid of that restlessness which I had expected to see, judging of what American boys would be by seeing the men. And I am once more forced to remark, that the true type of London ragged boyism is never to be seen but in London.

A banging of drums and clanging of trumpets announced the German Turner Society as they marched in military order down Broadway at noon on Sunday. This is a shameful desecration of the day; and the more so, as New York, in external observance of it, is not behind any town in Europe. But it seems the Germans are fast pushing the Sunday question to an issue here; and to-day it is expected that 6,000 of them will march in the Telegraph 61 procession.—They wear black wide-awake hats and white linen coats—many carried carbines. We heard three gunshots in a disturbed district on Sunday

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afternoon; but this seemed to cause no astonishment, or to be at all out of the way, —“Perhaps it was a little difficulty they were settling.”

In Brooklyn there is a Children's Institution that surpasses in neatness, practicability, and general excellence, so far as could be judged, any one appliance for the purpose I have visited.

A large chapel is in the first story, and above is a school, all so well built and furnished, so neatly painted and appropriately ornamented, that if the results are commensurate with the machinery, this Lee Avenue school must do wonders. Mr. Johnstone has the credit of beginning and carrying on this work. His purse and personal attention have raised and sustained it; and a large corps of devoted teachers readily attribute to him the honour of directing their labours. Boys and girls come great distances to attend the place; and they have every form of association for different benevolent purposes that children can engage in, and many that few English boys could be brought to trouble their heads about. In most of these schools the singing is very good, and is led by a seraphine. It is not uncommon to have an arm-chair and desk for every child. The American mode of speaking to children appears to be a good deal different from any of the styles adopted in England. When we mingle grave and gay, we seem to make each more prominent than they do, and the manner of religious talking here strikes me as at once less solemn and less humorous than ours.

I had the privilege of speaking to about 1,000 persons in this Lee Avenue School, and addressed a few words to the other schools. It was indeed a “Sunday treat,” for which I am much indebted to my good friend Mr. M'Cormick, a prominent member of the Young Men's Christian Association here, and also the editor of that new and interesting periodical, the *Young Men's Magazine*. His visit to Europe a few years ago, and his stay at Sebastopol during the Russian war, have doubtless added much to his usefulness in the various fields of labour spread before him in America.

Last night I met some of the representative men of various Societies and Churches, who listened to the tale of London work with the usual interest displayed by all Western Christians, when facts from Europe are laid before them. I went also to a Sunday-school rural treat, or a pic-nic, as it is called here. There is a pretty grove, shaded delightfully, and devoted by its proprietor to a succession of such festivities. In one of the County "almshouses" I found 200 children nicely cared for; and I suppose that, so far as buildings and systems can be perfected for educational purposes, there is no town better furnished than this. They have yet, however, to fight and win the battle about Scriptural education.

The whole town is in such a ferment of telegraph ecstasy, that it is hard even to write coherently in the bustle. I saw the end of the cable still on board the Niagara, while miles of it are sold in the streets by boys, who produce as a verification as many MS. certificates (all signed by Mr. Field), as would fill a volume.

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### CHAPTER VII.

THE CABLE FEVER—FIREMEN—ODD MOTTOES—A BARRISTER'S WIG—LUNATICS—CALLIOPE—"ISMS"—HOUSE OF REFUGE—REVIVAL PRAYER-MEETING.

I HOPE that John Bull will hear in a proper spirit a full account, and from some better pen than mine, of the violent ecstasies of Cousin Jonathan when he found the thin quick wire had joined their hearts again. Even Americans aver that this cable-celebration exceeds any of their former exhibitions of feeling. It was a difficult thing to do well, but it was right well done in New York. They say, everybody but the babies was in Broadway; but I saw many babies there, and heard them too. No one street anywhere was better suited for this show; and the performances lasted full twelve hours of unwearied rejoicing.

The people were on their good behaviour, so there were no rows nor rowdies (except, by 65 the way, a hundred respectable men, who went and burned down all the Quarantine



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houses, led on by an ex-judge, who fired the first torch). The poor dying patients were left on the grass to bear Thursday's fierce sun; and, if they survived, to be blasted by a hurricane on Friday, or drowned next day in a terrible storm of rain.\* The street was densely packed all day by a well-dressed host, beside some thousand women and servant-girls, who sat for hours in long rows upon the kerbstone. The people were too glad to cheer or to "chaff," except when a policeman got wrathful, or somebody struck up "God save the Queen," which was always applauded. Not many banners were hung out, and very few carpets or hangings graced the beautiful windows; but rows of smiling (and some) pretty faces peered from the sixth story of every house.

\* The conduct of the authorities in this matter was scandalous; every American protests against it, but sanctions it by inaction. The rioters were acquitted in November, because they had destroyed only what was proclaimed to be a nuisance. Here, then, is the law: "A.'s house is a nuisance; therefore, B. may burn it."

Cyrus Field was the popular favourite, and a F 66 nice-looking modest young man he is. Next to him, Captain Hudson—that Christian sailor and the British tars. The soldiers were in force; such new multifarious uniforms—red, blue, green, yellow, grey, indeed every colour that even London shoeblacks can put on—horse, foot, and artillery—Germans, and kilted Highlanders, with clanging bands and ranks well kept, shoulder to shoulder, by stalwart broad-backed citizens. The United States' army is not to be despised, and the people seem intensely fond of soldiering. Then came the trades, and innumerable societies of "Odd Fellows," "Masons," "Bummers," and other queer sets, marshalled behind huge cars, like moving houses, full of gay-dressed mimers of every sort. The Crystal Palace received its ten thousand; but the affair there was poorly managed. The building is about twice the size of the Surrey Gardens' Music Hall, and exquisitely adapted for *not* hearing. It was a sad mistake for Jonathan to call this edifice a Crystal Palace!\* As evening falls, the firemen begin their long-drawn march, with a hundred engines, brilliant

\* Never mind he has burned it down since this was written.

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67 with brass, and hauled along by sturdy firemen, all clad in red Jerseys. They need those fine fellows, too; for there has been a fire every night since I came. Each engine had its devices illuminated; and many bore as a badge a stuffed bear, a living eagle, or an elephant of oil-silk inflated like a balloon, that tumbled about in most amusing gambols. Each fireman carried a Roman candle, pouring forth a lurid glare, and ever and anon shooting aloft a shower of sparkling shells; while guns fired, crackers fizzed, squibs burst, and the people screamed with delight. The houses were not generally illuminated, but several were lit up in every pane; and this wall of fire was higher than in any of our London illuminations, though the excitement and bright glare were not like that which the Strand and Regent-street display on such occasions. Good temper and unwonted quiet prevailed everywhere. The devices and mottoes were all puzzled out by the wondering citizens, and by many thousands from other States, who poured in by the steamers, the railroads, and those nice roomy, cheap and cool omnibuses, that run on railway-tracks along the 68 wide approaches to the city. There was less of humour as well as of roughness than I had looked for. Both these are no doubt plentiful when a President has to be elected, or an unpopular bill thrown out.

As the firemen march along some of the characteristic devices on the houses may be noted:

1. "Severed July 4, 1776. Connected Aug. 12, 1858;" alluding to England and America.
2. Under the British and American flags were these words:—

"These are the banners from whose folds unfurl'd, Fair Freedom flings her blessings through the world."

(of course the poor negro is not in the world.)

3. "British neighbourhood. Human brotherhood. Divine fatherhood."

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4. "John, there's 3,000 miles between us, but distance is not of the slightest consequence."

5. A design represented the cable as a slackrope, on which were the Queen of England, attired as an opera-dancer in short dress, and the President capering in boots. "The Queen and old Buck perform a new feat on the slackrope."

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6. A row of muskets holding a candle in each muzzle had these lines below:—

"The cable with its peaceful tricks, Makes of muskets candlesticks."

7. Some of the wonderful sewing machines so much used here had these lines below:—

"Honour to those whose genius led The lightning track through ocean's bed, A path for thought; And kindred honours may they share, Who sweet relief from toilsome care For woman wrought."

8. The Spengler Institution for Girls had some hundred merry faces and hands waving handkerchiefs over their motto:—"The daughters of America to the daughters of England send greeting."

9. That noted place, Niblo's Theatre, had a single text of Scripture:£—"When the multitudes saw it they marvelled, and gave glory to God which had given so great power unto men."

10. "Europe and America, married by lightning, and by thunder they shall never be divorced."

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11. The best design represented "The Past," with a demon of discord shadowing a British ship and an American ship engaged in deadly combat, while the crews fall down to the

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depths of the sea. "The Present," with the ships laying the cable, directed by a godlike hand gracefully supporting both vessels, and guiding the wire to its sea-bottom bed.

A group of noisy men paraded as they sang in chorus "God save the Queen." They were most warmly cheered, indeed, better than any other part of the pageant. The Yankee bystanders eagerly joined whenever our national anthem was raised, and they sang as if they were Englishmen:—

"Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, God save the Queen."

The ode composed specially for the Crystal Palace Meeting concluded each stanza thus:  
—

"O God, bless our President, God save the Queen."

Lord Napier's admirable speech at the great dinner was much appreciated, as is, indeed, 71 everything he does, for he seems to be a great favourite here. So your show was very successful, Jonathan, and you call out louder than we do, for the cable will tell you the news of three continents, while we shall hear only the price of bread and slaves in one.

It was a striking contrast to see the next day a great hospital for fallen women, an almshouse, a prison, and a lunatic asylum, all most beautifully situated on an island near the city. Every part of these establishments is apparently well-managed; but it is sad to notice that at least *two-thirds* of the inmates are Irish. Indeed, if the Irish did not fill them, the managers said they might be almost closed. With the worthy chaplain and Mr. Pardee, the Sunday-school agent, I went from ward to ward, and the words of comfort dropped were received with tearful gratitude.

In the lunatic asylum there was an indignant lady, who denounced the affair as a butcher's shop, and told me confidentially that the mangled limbs were cast into the water every night. Her consolation was, that she is the President's wife, and that all the buildings were

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raised by 72 herself. Then we found another old dame, who had brought her vigorous Scotch tongue from “the village of Glasgow” thirty-seven years ago, and her room was full of a tribe of cats. A German inmate played us some beautiful music, and then went back to study his Arabic, which is one of the seven languages he knows. Among other employments in this asylum there are periodical “moot courts,” where a mock trial lasts sometimes two days, and it is darkly hinted that the sense and eloquence of these lunatics will not compare so very badly with the oratory of some folks at large.

But the very mention of law makes me blush at the shameful degradation of the profession here: every practitioner, lawyer, counsellor, attorney, and barrister, all rolled into one, with the worst features of each department sticking out painfully at the edges. On the gable of a house you see a great poster, like that of “Hyam's trousers,” and it flares out before the public:—

“Smart and Cute Counsellors and Atorneys- AT-LAW.”

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In that low police-court, you may see Mr. Smart lounging against the rail, with his hands in his shooting-jacket\* pockets, defending a prisoner for two shillings; or willing to take a woman's ring as his fee, if she cannot sell her bedding for his brief. These judges pass their tobacco quid about as they listen for a moment to a witness, whose back is turned to the hapless prisoner, and, *hi, presto!* —“Six months.” “Next case.” Why, there are sixty cases knocked off in one hour and a half! That judge, too, has been put there by popular voice—he is a rum-seller, perhaps—and he must give popular decisions, or he will lose his thousand pounds a-year. I never knew before how much there is of good in a barrister's wig.†

\* Though this easy costume is very seldom worn by travellers, that is, just when it is useful and allowable, according to our notions.

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† In a friend's house in Boston I was shown, preserved as a curiosity in a case, the barrister's wig of Baron B—, one of Her Majesty's present judges in England.

There is a worthy Englishman, who is employed by a Christian Society to look after the prisoners, both before and after sentence; and I 74 was glad to observe the kind attention paid to this *amicus curiæ* by the Bench.

Meanwhile, the sun shines bright outside. Ladies sit at the coffee-room; dine in their diamonds, and grasp two peaches, two apples, a slice of each of two melons, and a biscuit to “lay in stock” for dessert, not forgetting to apply the *cure dent*.

These are excrescences; these are not fair types. They are real, but they are not common; they are tolerated, but not uncriticised. By massing the black spots of any nation's picture, you might easily draw a hideous portrait. The worst of it is, however, that here all things are public, and the worst specimens of manners are noticed, where in England they would be hid in some low pothouse. American men and women are generally quiet, well-behaved, and courteous; far more so than might be augured, if you were to judge the whole by the parts one sees at Chamounix or Naples. The rage for travelling to Europe is not so prevalent in the best society as among some upstarts, whose purses are heavy and whose brains are light.

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On the Hudson the steamboat whistle is turned into a very tolerable organ on some packets. It is called a Calliope, though the muse hears her name Yankeeized generally into “Callyoap.” There is a pianoforte arrangement of keys, by which this steam organ is made to discourse music. The boat carries, too, a cargo of iron coffins, with glass in front of the face, and horses work an endless band to turn the paddles of that ferry-float or the circular saws of the timber shop. Machinery to save labour is very much used, even in the farm-yard, where it is said, that a “hen-persuader” takes every egg away, and beguiles the outwitted fowl by placing a piece of chalk in the nest!

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That man is reading *The Spiritual Newspaper*, all crammed with table-turning and revelations. This odd vagary and Mormonism, and other “isms,” I am assured, are almost effete theories. These ephemeral notions have time to rise, and walk, and get decrepit before honest John Bull has fairly opened his eyes to begin a downright inspection of them. The pronunciation of that lad it is very difficult to understand. He wishes to say, “Who would think one should have 76 broken so deep?” But it sounds to me thus,—“Hod woden thenk wawn shod have brokken so dayp?”

Yet this tongue is purer than the jargon you may hear in a Birmingham train or a Clyde steamer. But how comes it to pass, that we find so many squalid little girls and ragged boys in New York? They are nearly all Irish; and this class of children is more numerous than in London (for the population). Most noble, vigorous, and successful efforts are made to diminish this evil. Private philanthropy and legislation are not at fault; but the police are much to blame. See that magnificent structure on that lovely island, garnished with flowers and circled by the pure river stream. That is the House of Refuge, where 500 boys and 100 girls are admirably disciplined, educated, and taught to work. They are sent here by magistrates, and the cost is £10,000 per annum. No part is defrayed by private means, or by payment from parents. Another equally large Juvenile Asylum for boys, not criminals, has many cases paid for by the friends of its inmates. The State pays it £15 per annum for 77 every boy. But one-fourth of the expense of the House of Refuge is defrayed by the labour of the boys; and their industrial work is conducted on a plan that, I believe, is never used in England, though I think I found it applied in the Reformatory at Mettray, in France.

This system consists in farming the work of the boys to contractors, who pay for each lad 6 *d.* or 8 *d.* per diem, as he works six or eight hours; and these men manage all the commercial part of the industrial operations. Thus you find 200 little shoemakers in a perfect din of hammers and lasts; and the Director of this Institution has only to supervise generally the labour of the hand, while he devotes all his best energies to the moral and mental training of his pupils. This plan should certainly have a fair trial in England. The

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boys are all apprenticed out to farmers and masters, who are bound to report frequently, and to give a boy at twenty-one, and a girl at eighteen, a new dress, a good round sum of money, and their liberty. From this place we return to the heart of the city, and visit the great lodging-house for coloured 78 people. This seems to be quite successful, always full, and producing a good dividend.

And now let us sit down in the quiet upper chamber of the Fulton-street Daily Prayer-meeting, from which has sprung that wonderful religious movement, that must be carefully inspected before any correct opinion can be given about it. There are 200 men present, and a few ladies admitted as strangers. At twelve o'clock the chairman reads the Bible, a prayer is offered, and a hymn sung. Then a letter is read, asking prayer for an officer, and for the whole army; and another, with a request that "Washington may be remembered in prayer." Short addresses, prayers, and hymns follow from different parts of the room. The regulations are suspended on a board, "Prayers and exhortations not to exceed five minutes, in order to give all an opportunity. Not more than two consecutive prayers or exhortations. No controversial points discussed."

A young man tells of Philadelphia, that the work progresses in twenty-seven fire-engine companies; and that from 1,500 to 2,000 people 79 attend the daily prayer in the Jaynes' Hall. He says there are 1,800 youths in the Young Men's Christian Association of that town; and in three or four large tents, there is preaching every day. Then a letter is read from a little girl in Georgia who desires to be a Christian; and the chairman says, "I hope that brother R—will pray." Everybody may come in, and anybody may speak or pray, while letters are sent to this centre of supplication from all parts of the Union. Finally, before closing at one o'clock, it is announced that a gentleman from London will address the people in the largest Presbyterian Church, on "Practical Christian work in England."

I found a very interesting audience in the splendid room of the American Bible Society, where a band of sixty young men hold very formal committee meetings every month to record the doings of the Young Men's Bible Society, which appears to comprise some



very able and zealous workers, and to prosecute with vigour the privileged employment of distributing the Bible in all parts of New York.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

PHILADELPHIA REVIVAL—EUCHRE CLUB—PREACHING TENT—BLACK PRAYER-MEETING—GIRARD COLLEGE—FLOWERING ALOE—WASHINGTON—KILLING MEN, COWS AND PIGS.

IT was a very novel position to find myself in a church in New York, addressing a large crowd of listening people, but one gets used to strange things in strange lands, so I was scarcely surprised, a few days after, to get a letter addressed to the Rev. Mr.—, with a deputation from the negroes, asking me to address their congregation.

I have now to tell more particularly of the wonderful work carried on by the Prayer-unions in Philadelphia. The conviction deepens as I inspect this movement, that it is divine, that it is richly blessed, and that the manner of it would not do in England. I found at the Monthly Meeting for business of the Philadelphia 81 Young Men's Christian Association, an attendance of three or four hundred members, and that 1,800 youths have joined this branch alone. On one evening, as many as thirty were elected at once. The intense interest with which they listened to what was said of England, prepared me for the cordiality of a more formal reception next day in the large room, called Jaynes' Hall, where about 200 ministers and other representative men occupied the platform. The Hall is used also for the daily prayer-meetings, and will contain 2,000 persons.

It required two hours to set forth the salient points of the four societies especially advocated; and I was glad to find, that the absence of Protestant organization in America seemed generally acknowledged, and gave additional importance to a description of the Protestant Alliance. A large notice outside announces that there is "A daily prayer-meeting for business men from twelve to one o'clock." About 600 persons were present

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when I visited it, and more than half were females. But, recollecting that this is the most dead season of vacation time, I think that such a number of daily attendants is G 82 unprecedented. From 1,500 to 2,000 are often found at this meeting in the season, and the general interest in it by no means lags.

Requests were handed in for prayers for particular persons, and hymns were sung at intervals, with short addresses from any one who chose to speak. Neither the prayers nor the exhortations presented any remarkable excellence, nor any striking defect. Indeed, the absence of excellence is a feature that pervades all I have seen here, which is fairly balanced by the unusual amount of what is "good" in every line of work, thought, and manners.

The desire for prayer has spread largely among the fire-engine companies in Philadelphia. These constitute a numerous body of men, said to be ten thousand, around which there is a certain degree of romantic interest thrown, like that encircling the military profession of a State more used to war. About eighty such companies exist in Philadelphia, and though the character of the men attached to them seems by no means good in a religious sense, there are actually twenty-seven of these companies that hold regular prayer-meetings in the halls attached 83 to their quarters. In one of these meetings I found 100 persons, male and female; and several fine young men avowed their adherence to Christianity, and prayed at intervals with the excellent leaders who regularly attend from the Young Men's Christian Association.

One of the most remarkable results of the revival in Philadelphia, ought to be mentioned. There was a card-players' club, called the Euchre Club, from the name of a particular game. The members comprised wealthy young men, who met at their houses in rotation, and a great deal of evil was promoted in this manner. One of these youths was converted to the faith of Christ; and, when his turn came to issue the invitation, he sent out the note to all the members, inviting them to come to his house on the usual card-playing day "For Prayer." Notwithstanding this sudden change in the summons, a number of members

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arrived at the appointed hour; and the meetings for prayer in this club have since become stated and largely attended, while the card-playing functions of the little body have been given up.

A very great deal of credit in these matters <sup>84</sup> is due to Mr. George Stuart, an Irishman, who came to America without money, and has risen to wealth and honour, occupying the distinguished post of President of the Association at Philadelphia. Another very active Christian, Mr. Frederick Starr, an Englishman, has commenced an institution for the newspaper-boys, and these gentlemen, with their numerous and enthusiastic friends, displayed such hospitality to me as will never be forgotten.

In the suburbs, we visited the great preaching-tent, provided by the same Association. It holds 2,000 people, and is usually filled every evening. There are two other tents of a similar kind which are made equally useful.\* Preaching and prayer, then, are largely and continuously applied. They are God's means, and no doubt they will be abundantly blessed. I could not help asking myself frequently the question which was asked at once all over England, "What will this Revival do with slavery?" Christians come from the prayer-meeting at New York and then read on the railway-car in their streets, "Coloured people may ride in this car," as one

\* See post p. 94.

<sup>85</sup> might see "Dogs allowed here." Men return from the preaching-tent in Philadelphia, turn to a paper for the day's news, and read (as in that before me now), "For sale, a likely female negro." "To be hired, a strong negro, slave for life, sober and honest." Can this be done long? I fear it can go on as long as we in England can quietly pray, "Thy kingdom come," and then stand by while Popery nestles among us. So long as Protestants support Popery, we need not wonder to find freemen apathetic about slavery.

It is a chilly feel that darts through the soul when you suddenly pass the frontier into a Slave State. There is no such sensation to be felt in any other way. I always travel in the

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railway *coloured* cars to see as much and to hear and talk as much as one may on this horrible subject. But, oh, to feel that your mouth is gagged about it, and that millions of good Christians leave it all alone as “Politics!” This is sickening. Imagine some county in England, where you must acquiesce in stealing, where the law protects it, where no paper may attack it, where no meeting may discuss it, where Christians only sigh about it or scarce protest with bated breath. Every one tells me I shall be cooled down like most travellers, and nearly all residents, who begin so eagerly in this matter. Again I say, this, too, may be probable; for do we not see the best of Christians in England get marvellously phlegmatic about the foul slavery of Romanism, which is doing quite as much harm as the slavery of America. But may God grant that this hardening of the heart to the sight of oft-repeated wrong, may not be allowed to me!

I visited a “black prayer-meeting,” where it was most touching to see the poor fellows on their knees in the presence of that blessed Father, whose dear children many of them are.

The grammar-schools of New York are free to all people, and all classes mingle in receiving gratuitously an admirable education; but I do not pretend to speak more particularly of so vast a subject as this from the observation of only a few short visits. At Philadelphia there is an orphan-school, founded by a rich infidel, called Girard, who laid down the most precise instructions, that not one minister or missionary of any kind should ever enter the door, even as a visitor! 87 The building is magnificent—by far the finest I have seen in this country; and its noble marble pillars hold a lofty roof over hundreds of little heads. But, thank God, the restrictions of the eccentric founder are virtually without effect, and the best instruction is given to the children by volunteer Christian laymen.

The heat in this country is like that in Italy in July. I saw an aloe in flower; it is called the Century Plant, as it shoots up once in a hundred years, growing twenty feet in a few weeks, then blooms, and dies at once.

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Washington is a straggling town, half-paved, and the buildings, except the Patent Office, are not in good taste, and are being further spoiled. The monument to Washington is a huge obelisk, "ornamented" by scrolls and pillars. It has long been half-finished; and, if ever it is completed, it will be like a great milestone, to show how far the designers are from taste.

The railway-engine whistled loudly as we passed through a village, and heads popped out to see the cause. We had run over a poor man, and killed him in a moment. The conductor gave the body in charge to some one, and shouting 88 to us, "All aboard!" we were off again in an instant! In another case, we saw an engine that had tumbled over an embankment; in another, we smashed a carriage; in another we killed a pig; in another we killed a cow; in another we took to a raft, as the bridge was burned; in another case the train before us "killed 113 men," of which we read in a paper sold in our carriage, as we were approaching the spot; but soon the mistake was found out: it was "*only* 13"! I have had some very interesting conversations in the "cars" with young men about their swearing, and in every case there has been the kindest response to a gentle remonstrance; this proves to me, that if Christians here were to set to work upon this profanity, they would find the people very ready to listen to rebuke. One of these to-day was a Romanist; and he allowed that not one word was ever written by Paul about the Virgin Mary, which is almost always the first great point that I find it useful to speak of to a Papist. He parted, shaking hands very warmly.

### CHAPTER IX.

SLAVE SUNDAY-SCHOOL—A REAL LADY—"JIM HAMLY"—CINCINNATI PREACHING TENT—FELLOW DINERS—CAPTAIN VICARS—FAR WEST RAILWAYS.

I HAVE been in five slave States; and inspected the "peculiar institution" in coaches, cars, boats, and walking tours. In the negro Sunday-school at Cumberland, I asked a little fellow, "Have you any brother at this school?" "No, Massa, he didn't suit, and Mr. Johnson

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gave him to Mr.—.” Ragged-school teachers of London, here is an excuse for a boy's absence that you never heard, and, thank God you never will.

In Kentucky, I had a long talk with a real lady, a slave-holding lady—a Sunday-school teacher, nevertheless.

“I cannot help looking at you, Madam,” said I, “with great interest, as a wonderful anomaly.”

“But,” said she, “would you have us give up 90 our property? Why, I have a slave worth at least twenty-five hundred dollars.”

“Then he must be worth something to himself; he must be trusty, active, and clever.”

“Yes, that's why I could not part with him; he's worth so much.”

“And pray may I ask you, have you seen one white man to-day who is worth as much money to any one under the sun?”

The useless slaves are mentioned when it is wished to show blacks are beasts; and the clever slaves are introduced as instances of the valuable property we ask them to sacrifice.

After addressing the school, the negroes asked me to address them at night, and the appointment being announced, we had a very crowded congregation. “Brother Page,” a very eccentric black slave, exhorted in a most interesting and truly Christian manner, and their regular preacher, “Jim Hamly,” gave a sermon that was far better than any of the three “white sermons” I heard next Sunday. After my evening address, the negro hymns and prayers went on for two hours. They sing and pray with a hearty vigour, that rouses in a sober 91 mind the question, “Does not our propriety often suppress our earnestness?” There was very little in Jim's sermon that was absurd; but the veritable Gospel was forcibly spoken. Imagine the little blackie in light-coloured shooting coat, ending thus, “I may not

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have been just as eloquent as Voltaire, or learning like Cicero or Cato or the other scientific theologians!”

“Jim Hamly” commenced his sermon by reading the verse “Comfort ye,” and, shutting the book, he said, “Perhaps you will wonder why I don’t tell where the text is to be found; but I’m not yet arrived at the proper standing in the ministry for that.” One of the choruses that was most popular sounded thus:—

“John saw the number a-sitting on the altar, John saw the holy number sitting on the golden altar.”

On a sort of bed before the pulpit was laid a poor blind negro.

Jim began by asking me, “Sir, are you a divine? Are you reverend? What is your Society?”

“The Church of England,” I replied.

“Oh that’s all right,” said he, as he pleasantly ignored the possibility of heterodox teachers in *that* Church.

He often alluded to “Calvary’s rugged rock,” and said, “God will blow out the king of day that gilds the eastern horizons with his magnificence meridian ray;” but these were small and few grammatical blemishes, compared with

BLACK CHURCH.

93 the insufferable ignorance and stilted pretentiousness that some of the illiterate white preachers begin their sermons by, and painfully continue till they warm up to naturalness, forget their learning, and speak from the heart, when they *do* speak well enough. Some of the hymns had choruses, which all joined in, clapping their hands, and stamping loudly with their feet, with an occasional shout to give emphasis. The whole evening was one of

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prolonged amazement to me; but the worshippers appeared so sincere that there seemed really very little to offend.

In the same town there is a German Popish monastery with eighty monks who march about in long robes. America is being quietly leavened with Romanism, which is much stronger and less heeded here than I had expected. Now and then its power is indicated, however, as in Washington, where I addressed a meeting about open-air preaching; and the chief obstacle to their desire to begin the practice was the fact, that a Romanist is Mayor of Washington—the capital city!

I am sorry to say I found one of our London Ragged-school boys in prison for a robbery of 94 £300. He sent home by me a penitential letter; but it is right I should record the only case of failure I have discovered among so many emigrants from the schools.

At Cincinnati I joined the daily morning prayer-meeting, attended by 100 persons. The prayers and exhortations were by no means good. It was a strange sight to witness the preaching-tent service in the evening.\* This tent holds 1,500 people, and is used every night. Twice it is filled by the Germans, who are very numerous in Cincinnati, and a printed bill in the streets announces, “Boys' and Girls' Meeting on Saturday Evening. Plenty of good singing and speaking. Come, children, come.”

\* See Frontispiece.

I was introduced as “a friend of Captain Vicars,” and no more was needed to ensure a most cordial Christian welcome; for the lives and deaths of Vicars, Hammond, and Green, have been read as much here as in England. How little did these brave heroes know, that their names would illuminate both hemispheres of the earth when their souls were shining in Heaven! Their spirits may be present rejoicing, 95 even as this is written, ministering to the heirs of salvation. After the meeting, about seven persons came and sat upon the



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bench for “Inquirers,” and this hard ordeal seemed to be well understood as a customary thing.

As you go further west, the people are of course more rough. On several occasions I have had the pleasure of dining at the same table with the servants and day labourers, both men and women. Sometimes men sat next one without any coats; and, more than once, my next neighbour at the hotel dinner was a lad with bare feet. This futile attempt at “equality,” where both sides are uneasy, deepens that painful silence at meals, which I find almost intolerable. Americans, as strangers, talk less to each other in America, than the inhabitants of any country I know—not excepting Turkey.

The poor white people in Kentucky look far worse off than the slaves, for they are despised by both parties; and their wretched dwellings, pale ragged children, and miserable plots of farm are very striking to observe, when you come directly from a flourishing free State.

I saw many little slave girls with “hoops,” 96 and bare black feet, the height of fashion and the depth: perhaps this will put these crinoline absurdities out of vogue with the white people.

After a long talk with a negro in my bedroom, he suddenly said, “Sir, how far is your Station from Ayshy?” meaning, How far is England from Asia? and he was sure we went always by railway. He added, “Is England anywheres near Liberia? for there's a very pertickler friend of mine there.”

A herd of cows being in the way of the railroad for half a mile, the engineers had to dismount and drive them away by throwing stones. Numerous and fatal accidents are occurring on all the railways in this neighbourhood; and it is no wonder, for they are, in some cases, more like tramways used in England in slate-quarries or coal-mines, and by no means fit for heavy locomotives running twenty miles an hour.

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On more than one occasion our only railway carriage was a truck, on which I placed my portmanteau, and sat on it without any cover, a sack of flour on one hand, and a side of beef on the other. Once we were stopped by finding a bridge burned down, and had to cross 97 the wide river on a raft; again, as we slowly crawled in the train over a crazy bridge 130 feet high, formed of intensely light trellice-work, the conductor apologised for the solemn pace by saying, "This bridge is condemned at last, and nobody is to go over it after this week."

It may a little indicate the state of things in Western society to mention, that while I write this, the hotel-keeper has coolly sent up three additional travellers to my room, in which there are only two small beds!

In one of the "cars," I sat next to a poor Irish emigrant, who had landed here in George the Fourth's time, and, after many misfortunes, had become blind. Of course, *his* description of the country was but a gloomy one, and it would be very unfair even to repeat his general ideas, compounded of distress, ague, failure, and blindness. He was heartily pleased to get a word of comfort from a fellow-passenger—for talking in the railway is seldom attempted by strangers; and his first question was, "Are you a preacher?" Perhaps it would be better if we would act more frequently so as to be taken for preachers. What else can a Christian properly be but a preacher, H 98 every day, and all day, and in every possible way?

I went to the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. It is said to be the largest in the world, but its wonders are very much exaggerated. A river runs across part of it, and this is a novelty to meet some four miles underground; but the Kentucky cave will not for a moment compare, in extent or interest with the Cave of Adullam, in Palestine, nor in beauty with the Cave of Arta, in Majorca, which I saw last summer. In the woods near it, we had service in a curious chapel, built of logs, where the Sacrament was administered by some very

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unattractive deacons, while crowds of men, horses, and waggons, from distant spots, rested in the cool shade under magnificent trees.

Racoons, opossums, deer, and snakes abound in these woods. A rattle-snake, with ten rattles, was killed the day before; and I saw a large snake glide over the path in the sunshine. I found that the blacks in this place were not allowed to have a service, although several good preachers had offered to preach. The poor negro may slink in behind the door of the white 99 church it is true; but if there is no room he must do without it. All attempts to get permission to talk to them were useless. The masters fear abolitionists. The Christian Church here is lamentably dull on this matter. Oh! America! America!

100

### CHAPTER X.

KANSAS—SNAGS ON THE MISSOURI—SLAVE-HOLDING MINISTER—MUSIC—THE CALIFORNIA ROAD—“DOLLAR”—“THE BABY TOWN”—HOME THOUGHTS.

THIS river-boat journey to Kansas, is a route to take once, but not again. I have not had a comfortable rest at night for a week; but the desire of seeing, hearing, and talking as much as possible, sometimes constrains one to make a pleasure tour very laborious. Here I am “at” the far West, with trains going and coming from Utah, the Mormons, and California.

The steamer for ascending the Missouri was horribly crowded by 150 passengers. You might think that a crowd on a river-boat, and in fine weather, would never be any great hardship; but it is otherwise. First, then, the steamer, though very large in appearance, and built up four stories high, like an enormous house afloat, is so made that you have no peace 101 or rest in any one spot. The huge saloon is occupied at one end by the ladies and the men who are with them. The remarkable exclusiveness of American Society (a feature I was quite unprepared for) makes it impossible for a bachelor to speak to these fair passengers, so he is driven to the other end. There he finds a dim, close atmosphere, reeking with tobacco and rum all day and all night, crowded with dirty, vulgar, swearing

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men, who are all civil when the ice is broken, but then the ice is so very thick. With these companions I slept on the floor, which quivers under the tremendous

### MISSOURI STEAMBOAT.

102 power of a high-pressure engine, liable at any moment to blow you into the clouds. The heat from the sun permeates the thin planking of the flimsy vessel; and, what with the ringing of engine bells, jingling of chains, slamming of doors, and exit of passengers at all times of the night, I think there is scarcely any means of travelling made so abominable, or that might be made so pleasant.

The Missouri is a noble-looking river, plunging along at a furious pace, and cutting away miles of forest bank one year, or diving into a prairie the next, with sudden and impetuous waywardness. The banks for hundreds of miles are covered with thick forests; and, as the earth is swept away, the trees fall in, turn round, get fastened by the roots at the bottom, then each becomes a "snag."

Sometimes a hundred of these snags may be seen at one time, all pointing their sharp ends down the stream, and able, and looking willing, too, any of them, to smite the strongest vessel, not to say a frail thin steamer like the *Hesperia*. We passed a steamer that had sunk; and another went down the day I arrived here. 103 Besides being dangerous, the navigation of the river is very uncertain, from the shifting of sandbanks. We got aground about fifty times, and were delayed at one bank eighteen hours, struggling to push the boat over it by huge spars, worked by powerful tackle. This delay caused us to continue the journey during part of Sunday, which is always a very unpleasant thing, however necessary it may be on an occasion like this, where no town intervened for stopping at. The pilots manage most artistically. I never saw more nautical skill displayed in handling a craft, where stream, banks, snags, and wind have all to be considered at every moment. This mighty river is navigable for about 3,000 miles, that is, 1,500 miles beyond this spot. The deck hands of nearly all the steamers are Irishmen, and their work is very severe day and night, week-day and holiday, eating and sleeping while they may, and

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drinking always. For this, they get thirty shillings a-week; but the price of articles seems to make these wages go no further than half the sum would do in England. I am told, that hardly one Englishman 104 or American will work in this capacity, and I do not wonder at it.

After two days I got a cabin, with four people crammed, in this hot weather, into a very little place, and for the whole 150 persons, there were only three basins for washing. But I do not think that the Americans are a dirty people. They provide these for the usual run of travellers, who, on this river, are just what would come to London-bridge in a third-class train. At dinner, the gong sounds. Every man stands behind a chair. The ladies march on, and drive as many men back, who will have to come to another dinner. When all the ladies are provided, bang goes the gong again, and, in an instant, every man has sat down, and finished the soup that has been toned down to a genial coolness, during the long preliminaries. On my right, I find a backwoodsman, with a hungry look, that soon tells on the desperately tough meat; and on my left, a man without stockings, and covered with rags and dirt, indeed, exactly, and without any exaggeration, in the costume of a man that passes along the Strand with a cinder-cart, calling out Dust-ho!

105

Now I do not object to "roughing it." Few people like more than I do to consort with all classes; but I do object to forcing those people to an apparent equality, whose habits and tastes are different, and who clearly indicate they are not at ease, by preserving a dead silence, and then rushing away as soon as possible from one another. It must never be forgotten that there are some people who do use saltspoons, and butterknives, nailbrushes and pocket-handkerchiefs.

I had many long talks with these hardy settlers. In one case an infidel went so far as to propose a discussion; and the calibre of the controversy may be discerned from the way in which the questions were spelled when written, "God made all things from *desine* , God *forenew* all things."

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The weary idle passengers who do not read or even pace the deck, but consume the whole day in spitting, gathered in a mass round the argument, and a great deal of good was done by this regular and temperate discussion.

I found the *British Workman*, and the Shoe-black Reports just as popular on the Missouri 106 as on the Thames. The passengers seemed all to be on business. I have met no American travelling for pleasure. One of the men in my cabin was a Pole, from California; another, an Irishman, from the French army in Algeria; another, an Irishman who went to the Rev. J. Gregg's church, in Dublin. The first man I met in Kansas was a Macdonald, of Glengarry; and the grocer's shop is kept by a Campbell, from Argyleshire. One of the mates was a Dane; and a Manchester lad came to me this morning, saying, "I think you are an Englishman, you are very like one of our shop clerks in Macclesfield." An old lady who heard that a Mr. Macgregor has died in Glasgow, leaving her some thousands of pounds, is to give me half the money, if I get her the remainder; at least, that was the proposal on her side!

On Sunday, I found a minister from the south, who was going to the Conference of his Church at Kansas, and he soon entered into conversation as a full, strong, determined slaveholder. Imagine our being taught the freedom of the Gospel by one who buys and sells men and 107 women! Another passenger I found reading Bogatzky, and he joined in the proposal that we should try to have a short service on Sunday, in the ladies' cabin, which was managed very agreeably, and much to our edification. How perfect and immediate is the mutuality of Christians the moment they meet. Everybody knows that Kansas is still a subject of dispute between the Slavery party and Free-soil party of America. A short time ago, no man who opposed slavery was safe if he seemed to be coming here.

Free-soil passengers were turned out of the boat, and cannon were used to effect this, The reaction is powerful; and now it is scarcely safe for a slavery man to settle in Kansas. They appear to be determined, that when admitted as a State they shall have no slaves.

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But law will be a long time before it rules here properly. We had two robbers on the boat, who stole money and clothes from seven or eight people, and I saw them decamp by jumping ashore and stealing a boat, in which they rowed quietly down the river.

At Jefferson City I heard an amateur band 108 serenade a young lady, who was going to leave the place, and their negro melody music sounded most sweetly by the bright moonlight at one o'clock in a fine night. This is the only music I have heard in America, where I had expected to hear so much. I have never heard any American sing or whistle at his work; not even a woman whispers a lullaby to her child. All this is, of course, because I have not gone to the music; but certainly if there is any it has not come to me.

Dollar, dollar, dollar! This is the ringing music of the West. Oh, how tired I am of the very word! To-day, I went over the river to a quiet grove and sat down, thinking there might be peace; but, no, I heard an auctioneer on the other bank selling horses, and every gust of the breeze brought over the words, "Going for ten dollars!"

On the Kansas side, I inspected, with great interest, the regular old route to California, the way-worn track through the forest, along which so many hopeful feet have marched, and so many limped back wearily or laden with gold. Large trains of waggons continually pass through this 109 place upon that long journey. It is a work of months, and the toil, danger, sickness, Indians, famine, thirst, cold, heat, expense, and anxiety that must be encountered, show how much will be endured for money. I saw whole families slowly dragged along in long, light waggons, by four oxen. The affair looks exceedingly unromantic, and altogether different from the exploration of some ancient land, where the grand works of ages may be disclosed to the aspiring explorer. I think the journey would be the very last I should have any desire to attempt even in an adventurous mood.

But the chief excitement about gold in this part of the world, is that of the new diggings at Pike's Peak, about 700 miles west from this, and many people have gone there without enough provisions, so as to be almost starving while their hands are full of gold. I found

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the little town of Elwood, Kansas, built in the forest. It is only just one year since the first house was put up, and here there is a newspaper—the *Kansas Weekly Press*, many shops, 1,000 inhabitants, a saw-mill, a church, and an hotel. The timber is left standing in the streets, and the scene altogether was the most interesting specimen of rapid colonization that could be seen. It is called the “yearling town,” and is said to be a very “big baby.”\* The whole town will be washed away by the Missouri in one of its stormy freaks; and the place I am writing from is also falling into the river as I write. I saw part of a house this morning of which half had just tumbled into the yellow torrent. Here I read an English book about a pretty village in Somersetshire, and the violent sudden desire that seized me to get back to our neat, pleasant homes, has come just in time to speed me over the prairies to the East—to the East!

\* A grand coloured prospectus was gravely supplied to me, with a map delineating Ellwood and three railways to it (none of which exist); the description, however, begins: “This is the most flourishing city in Northern Kansas.” Englishmen, caught by a similar falsehood some time ago, founded the town of Cairo on the Mississippi; and when heaps of gold had been blindly buried, they discovered that the site of their intended town was actually *below the level of the river!*

### CHAPTER XI.

MISSISSIPPI—NAUVOO AND MORMONS—MINNESOTA—SNOW—MINNEHAHA—CHICAGO—COLOURED CHURCH—INDIAN SCALPING.

HERE we are 2,000 miles up the Mississippi, and the mighty “father of waters” is still navigable 200 miles more above the rapids.

What a changed climate one sees on this river! A few weeks ago, too hot to stir out in the sun; and now wrapped in a buffalo skin beside a stove, with ice around, and snow falling. Nevertheless, I took a long drive by the falls of St. Anthony, where the Mississppi tumbles over some pretty rocks, and then to the Minnesota River, with its sparkling cascade



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“Minne-ha-ha.” There never was a more beautiful name for a waterfall. It is Indian, and means “laughing water,” as Minnesota means “sky-blue water.”

A book was written lately upon this new State of the Union, by my friend Mr. L. Oliphant, who is now with Lord Elgin in China, 112 and will doubtless tell the public of the falls on the Yang-tse-kiang.

I found that by the wonderful accommodation of railroads and fast steamers, it was possible to add another thousand miles to my tour before going eastward towards Europe; and, certainly, the scenery on the Upper Mississippi is well worth visiting, though it is strongly marked

### NAUVOO OF THE MORMONS.

113 with the characteristic of pleasant mediocrity, which is so universal here, except at Niagara.

The little sketch of Nauvoo was made from between the two great “smoke pipes” of our Mississippi steamer. Here the notorious “Joe Smith” founded his Mormon settlement. His temple is seen on the hill; his half-finished hotel is by the river; and his widow (wife No. 1) still resides in that little house at the end of the road.

The Americans always speak of Mormonism as a thing gone by. It is only in London and Wales that it continues to deceive.

The flourishing state of Illinois has its rolling prairies\* pierced by the never weary rail, straight as an arrow, for miles and miles. There is wonderful similarity between all the American railroads, as far as regards system. You rumble along in the great airy “cars,” with a stove in the centre, and a pail of iced water at the end. The whistle sounds a peculiar groan (for it speaks deep-toned here, not shrilly), and every head pops up to see the cows run along, until the

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\* A prairie is a field of rank grass, 200 miles between the fences. When the surface undulates, it is called a “rolling prairie.” It has not the sublimity of a desert of sand.

I 114 engineer dismounts to pelt them with stones. By the card of stations given to each person, you see that “this train stops for refreshment at Paris,” or London, or Cairo (the old towns are all reduplicated); and Paris comes in sight—about fifty wooden houses painted white, with large signboards in black letters, labelled “Dry Goods” (the term for hosiery), “Iron Store,” “Everything Store,” “World's Fair,” and the inns named “Washington House,” “Madison House.” As the great bell tolls on the engine, you pass right through the principal street without any fence whatever, and the ragged boys cling to the “cars” for a “ride,” selling apples, newspapers, and “candy.” At the three doors of the three eating-houses of Paris, are three women, ringing three bells, to invite you to three dinners at twelve o'clock; but the regular dinner is on the other side, and it is more officially announced by a black man beating a gong.

Here we find beef, mutton, chicken, and pork, all very tough; and as many kinds of bread and vegetables, all very nice, with sweet things and puddings truly delectable. Nothing but water 115 is drunk at dinner. You pay your two shillings, and the prairie, and rumbling, and whistling, go on again till supper-time at six o'clock, when you find you have gone one hundred miles whizzing over those shaking bridges, swinging round those sharp corners, and clank, clank, on the rough “track,” where each wheel thumps the unfastened end of every rail. Before you reach the terminus, a porter inquires what hotel you will stop at, and takes your baggage cheques, that he may fetch up your valise, which is thenceforth absolutely committed to his charge. With twenty others, you get out of the omnibus, and appear at the bar of the “Tremont House,” Chicago, a sort of office, large and bustling, covered with advertisements, maps, and bills, and embedded in tobacco smoke. You enter your name and residence, and wait patiently (or otherwise) until your baggage arrives, and a room is assigned, which you greatly rejoice to find has only one bed. For second-class

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travellers, the locomotion and hotels of America are superior to those of England; while, in both third-class and first-class accommodation, their inferiority is evident and universal.

116

Chicago has sprung into existence with more rapidity than any other town in America. In a few years, it has attained a population of 150,000. Most of the houses are of wood; and many of the broad streets are actually planked with timber throughout their entire length. The preparation of a good roadway, except on the railroad, seems always the last thing thought of here.

I was not able to examine the Christian efforts of Chicago; but I see that the Union prayer-meeting is thinly attended there.

*“ These are the Rules for the Firemen's Union Prayer Meetings, at Philadelphia.*

“1. Hymn. (Not over four stanzas.)

“2. Prayer, by request.

“3. Reading Scriptures. (Not over eight or ten verses.)

“These three exercises not to occupy more than 15 minutes, then the meeting to be left open for prayer or exhortation.

“No person to pray or exhort over five minutes, *or to do both at the same meeting.*

“Not more than *two* prayers or exhortations consecutively.

“Those who take part in the exercises 117 should face the larger portion of the audience, and *speak in clear, distinct tones.*

“ *Young Men* are expected to participate.

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“No controverted points or denominational differences to be discussed.

“The leader will strike the bells whenever the rules are disregarded, or when he wishes to gain the floor in order to direct the exercises.”

The Rev. Dr. Howard, a Baptist minister in Chicago, preached a most excellent sermon on the deadly touch of Uzzah, and the healing touch of the hem of Christ's garment. The sermon was read from manuscript, and admirably delivered.

I regret to find that the “Universalists” number in their cold, dead body, many well-taught men, and most able preachers.

In the afternoon, I listened, with very great delight, to a black preacher, in a “coloured man's church,” where almost all the congregation were fugitive slaves. The whole service was well-conducted, and without a particle of that over-wrought excitement which may be noticed as a blemish in several negro churches. The choir numbered several singers, of so white 118 a skin that no one but a slave-driver would dare to call them black. The rough blasts of travelling have made me far more “weather-browed” than many of those whose skin is thought dark enough to warrant its being sold with a human being in it. One man played the flute very tastefully as the choir sung, and the sable congregation joined, all standing up, and turning round with *their backs to the pulpit*.

It was with the heartiest goodwill that I partook of the Lord's Supper with these poor fugitives, and gave a liberal contribution from a kind lady in London, where this black minister might occupy many pulpits without disparagement. In the evening, the church was crowded to hear an account of open-air preaching in England, illustrated by some simple anecdotes.

Afterwards I went home with one of the Church elders, and had a long and useful conversation in his family circle, where a neat, comfortable home showed how a black man escaped from slavery can live. He gave me a copy of *Fred. Douglas' Paper*, a journal

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edited by a runaway slave; and I would boldly ask the whole American nation to point to any newspaper in the States that has better writing or 119 more tact. I think that the negro is much nearer to the white man than many white men allow. In the matter of gentle bearing and true politeness, I would deliberately place him on an equality with any class I have seen here.

From Chicago I went back again to the great highway of waters—the noble Mississippi. The class of travellers was a great improvement on those steaming up the Missouri; indeed, many of them washed their hands before dinner, and the beautiful steamers paddled along with dignity and comfort. The water of the river is lower just now than for many years. On two occasions we were stuck fast for twelve hours in the shoals, while a fearful thunder-storm raged overhead, and the loud screams of myriads of wild geese sounded through the blasts of rain. The pilots of these boats are each paid more than a thousand pounds a-year; and well they earn their pay, steering the vast floating edifice, with two hundred sleepers on board, through the most intricate shoals on the darkest nights. These river pilots are certainly “first-rate”; they are exceptions to the uniform mediocrity. As we steamed day and night steadily northward, the 120 cold grew more intense, the comet showed more brilliantly, and the aurora gleamed at eventide. The Indians in Minnesota have been fighting a good deal lately; and a fellow-traveller told me, that at one of the dances of the Chippewas, there were six scalps suspended over the fire. The American army have a hard struggle with these brave wild men, at this moment, in a more western State. One of the officers affirmed, that the force of ten thousand men was scarcely enough to keep them in check. Sir G. Simpson, Dr. Rae, the Arctic traveller, and Mr. Ellis, M.P., passed through this town last week, to make arrangements for the trade of the Hudson bay Company. Lord F. Cavendish, Lord R. Grosvenor, Hon. Mr. Ashley, and Mr. Seymour, M.P., have gone still further northward; but this stormy weather, which, however, usually precedes the second, or “Indian summer,” will probably drive them back. Murders, robberies, and Vigilance Committees are quite common in this western country; but a stranger seems to be quite safe, if he keeps from the “Bar” for drink.

**CHAPTER XII.**

CONVENTION AT LA CROSSE—FREE NEGRO SETTLEMENT—TRENTON FALLS—  
SLEEPING TRAINS—LADIES—THEODORE PARKER'S CHURCH.

SPEEDING down the Mississippi, I had to stop during Sunday at La Crosse; and the passengers said, "You will have to walk ten miles to church"; but I found a very different sort of Sunday in store. From nine in the morning until ten o'clock at night, it was one continued pleasure.

There was a convention of four hundred Independent ministers meeting at this place; and I happened to find among them one who had been connected with the Boys' Refuge in London. The Wisconsin ministers were much pleased to hear at some length an account of the open-air preaching in England; and the children of the schools assembled to listen to a Shoeblack lecture, for this topic seems to have 122 extraordinary interest, when illustrated by photographs of the boys, and anecdotes of their lives. Professor Emerson preached before the Convention. His sermon was a learned exposition. The doctrine of doctrines, the sacrificial atonement by blood, was most fully set forth afterwards in a powerful address, by the Moderator of the Convention, preparatory to the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It was surely a pleasant and suggestive occasion, to find the grand truths of the Gospel so purely preached on the banks of the Mississippi. At a Home Mission Meeting in the evening, the subject of lay agency in England excited very deep interest; and the worthy ministers and elders were so hospitable, that it was hard to leave them after so short a visit.

At Cincinnati I attended a great political Convention, where 2,000 people kept a noisy order in their entanglement of politics. The presiding genius was a long Yankee, who took off his coat, and appeared in his shirt sleeves, without any apology. The whole affair would be an utter impossibility away from America. Every gentleman and well-educated man

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(and, 123 by the way, they are marvellously few) abjures politics; and, in proportion to his sense, appears anxious to assure you he is not a politician. The land is ruled by a very indifferent set of men, raised to a brief power by hired underlings, who make it their daily calling. No one thing forbodes worse for these great people than

SECRETARY OF THE CINCINNATI CONVENTION, CINCINNATI.

124 the absence of men of probity and talent from their politics.\*

\* See chapter on American voting, *post*.

Crossing by a rough railway, just opened through Wisconsin, and by a dangerous boat over Lake Michigan, and then by another new rail through Michigan State, you compass the five hundred miles comfortably in two days. Lake Michigan is generally very stormy, the most irritable of the northern lakes. Three wrecks occurred on it last week;† but it was beautifully calm during our passage. From Detroit, the meeting-place of so many routes of travel, I crossed the water once more to the Canadian shore; and it really felt as if one was half at home again, to get a portmanteau examined by “Her Majesty's Custom-house officer.” Here, on the “Thames,” I stopped to see Chatham, where half the population of four thousand are escaped negroes. The slavery folks call it “miserable,” but a personal inspection convinced me that the blacks are far better off in Chatham, than many of the white people in Kentucky. The town was in great commotion about an

† The steamer on the preceding night had foundered.

125 event of which it is difficult to speak with accuracy, though the matter is of some importance, and will undergo judicial investigation within a few days.

An itinerant quack medicine vendor appeared on the railway platform, a few days ago, with a coloured boy as his servant. A great crowd of black men from the town at once seized the boy and forcibly took him away. The boy cried, and desired to stop with his master; but the negroes say that the master was about to sell the boy in the Southern States, although he was born free. Thus this horrid slavery leers at you with its grim black face of shame

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wherever you go in America. The beautiful autumnal foliage of Canada skirted the “track” until I reached Niagara once more. The second visit to this wonder of wonders, only raises your admiration higher, when before you thought it was at the highest point.

Trenton Falls may be reached easily in a day from Niagara. The remarkable beauty of these far-famed cataracts amply justifies a detour; but the description of scenery is scarcely profitable, unless it is written by a poet's pen. A drive of 126 some hours through the country near these falls revealed to me, as in other places, the wretched roads and poor tumble-down houses of many of the lands in the older parts of the States.

Public works are far behind private efforts in this country; but it is amazing to observe what enormous tracts have been cultivated, what houses built, what towns, what railroads, what bridges, tunnels, canals, and docks have been constructed in two hundred years by Anglo-Saxon energy.

In one of the coloured churches, a black preacher told us the danger of relying on public bodies to do individual work, and instanced his own experience. When first he joined his religious body, he was full of zeal and void of prudence. Relying on the vote of the “Association,” “that a saddle be bought for the missionary's horse,” he bought one, and then bought a new horse with the like authority, giving his own promissory note to pay for them. “Well, the note became due, brethren, but when I looked for the ‘Association’ I couldn't find it, nor see it, nor hear on it, my brethren; so I was a near ruined, look ye thar.”

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The yearning feeling towards “home,” as England is often endearingly called, seems to abide with the distant settler for many a long day. One of them said he had been thirty years away, but he would embrace a dog if he only knew it was from old England.

The Scotch plaid is very commonly worn by all nations in the West, by Germans, and Americans and Norwegians, even more than by Scotchmen.



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The boots of many are outside their trousers, or “pants,” as they always call them, and this is a very neat and sensible mode of dress, as it seems to me, and is even ornamental when the boots have bright red tops with gilded patterns.

But the American business traveller invariably wears a good long cloth dark coat, and very often a new hat. The idea of a “gent” wearing a light-coloured easy shooting-jacket, is evidently preposterous to their notions; as for the ladies, the finest silk (and the largest expansion of it) that a woman can wear is frequently put on to sail into breakfast by early candle-light, in a cold, wet morning, before a rough journey of two hundred miles. I recollect 128 an American who travelled with me through Syria in a dress-coat and a black hat. These are oddities that will correct themselves when many trunks, brilliant satins, and glossy hats are less required to mark good breeding, than a quiet common-sense simplicity, which selects for wear the raiment really suited for the occasion.

On a few railways, you meet a very excellent addition to comfort in travelling by night. The “sleeping cars” are made to hold as many persons as the usual long car, which contains seventy travellers, and each one is stretched on a nicely-padded shelf, in three tiers, one over another. I “guess” (how many thousand times have I heard that word!) that this will only add to the intensity of locomotion which wears out this people, often needlessly, and will increase the frequency of accidents by promoting night journeys.

The trains are generally quite full; and whenever a lady enters on such an occasion, the conductor causes a “gent” to give her his seat. I had great pleasure lately in resigning my place to a black woman, and, with more than a dozen 129 others, finished a long journey in the baggage-waggon.

Often as I have seen this supplanting of the lords of the creation, and other numerous acts of courtesy readily done or allowed by men in favour of women, I never on any one occasion observed any thanks given in return. It is very bold, nay, it may be ungallant, to

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tell this;, but it is true, and it is often spoken of by the gentlemen, and even publicly noticed in the newspapers. Ladies, we yield to you; but pray do pay us by a smile.

I stopped at Louisville to see the great Artesian Well, which is two thousand feet deep. A rushing stream pours hot water forth in a ceaseless current; but the very strong sulphureous ingredients of the water have made it unfit for the purpose the well was sunk to attain; so, instead of supplying a paper-mill, the spring will be used as a mineral water, from which, perhaps, a fortune may be made, if it is well puffed!

The administration of justice is here invested with much to make it suspected. The magistrate finds his electors before him as counsel, K 130 witnesses, or criminals. His election depends on that accused man; or his hopes for the future rest on that accuser. How is it possible that the judge thus situated can escape from improper motives? I saw a murder case tried in Louisville, where the barrister had his quid of tobacco, and the judge had a quaff from a great white jug—not from tumbler, glass, or any such thing,

LOUISVILLE COURT-HOUSE.

131 but from the jug itself, held aloft with two hands before the Court.

At Springfield, I visited the United States' Arsenal, where some neat workshops are used by the clever gunsmiths, hammering away at the rifles that are to be used—I hope, never against England. The town is very English in appearance, except the signboards such as this: “Clam Chowder to-night, at Howe's lunch”; which invites you to Mr. Howe's nocturnal shellfish dainties; for the term “lunch” is not confined to an afternoon “snack.”

As you approach Boston, the country becomes more English still; and, shall I say it? more comfortable, and habitable, and pleasant.

But in no part of England, nay, nor in Europe, are there those splendid autumn foliage tints, that paint the most common-place hillside here until it glows before you as a radiant

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picture, which the artist would scarcely dare to put on canvass, lest you might mistake it for his palette.

I have not now time to describe Boston, with its numerous attractions, its historical associations, its public institutions, and its intense 132 hospitality to an unworthy English stranger; and yet this letter must be the last of my present fleeting records of a delightful tour, improving to body, mind, and soul.

I tried to hear the Rev. Theodore Parker, so as at least to make one effort more to ascertain his views (if, indeed, he knows them himself), and thus be prepared the better to combat his followers in England.

A Mr. Higginson, of Worcester, preached in his place in the Music Hall, to a congregation of about 1,500, which half filled it. Many came in or went out during the service; and many read the newspapers all the time, even during singing and prayer. The preacher prayed in a strange mysterious manner, as if he approached the Almighty with his hand over his face, and complained he could not see Him even dimly. He read from the Book of Wisdom. The choir sung two hymns, standing by a statue of Beethoven; while the people sat entirely mute, only three or four using hymn-books, and no one singing. Oh! it was a freezing service, that made one wrap the mind in a moral great-coat, to keep from the infection of a heart-chill.

133

The preacher, dressed in a civilian's usual costume, read the text from Acts xxviii, 10: —“They laded us with such things as were necessary;” and putting the Bible carefully aside, forthwith left it and the text as a starting-post to run away from. The whole address was an investigation into the question, “What are the necessities of life?” and the following are some of the Yankee notions that were served up as spiritual food:—

“An Irishman would say, a feather-bed is a necessary. If a fire takes place, you see one man saving a bag of money, another his books; some throwing the mirrors out of the

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windows, while they carry the mattresses carefully downstairs. A little boy saves his pipe to blow bubbles, a great boy his pipe to blow tobacco, and a politician his bubbles without any pipe. The four necessities are subsistence, employment, love, and faith. In every assembly of divines, dyspepsia sits enthroned, more despotic than any Pope. Mr. Astor (a great millionaire) said, 'A man with £50,000 was as well off as if he were rich.' The miser is a man who spends his life in buying tickets, and never goes to the entertainment 134 after all. Emigrants could live at home as well as in new countries, if they put up with half the evils they submit to abroad. Employment would cure many evils; and it would be a real kindness to force many an idle rich man to work on the treadmill, or the government of his town. Benevolence is like cold water, which all like to dabble in a little, but most shun to bathe in; and yet, like a daily bath, the habit of benevolence becomes soon a necessary, if properly used, for moral health. As ships sail best with the wind not entirely favourable, so moderate prosperity is better than complete good fortune. Some souls are like clipper-ships, that sail as fast on a wind close-hauled as when the favouring gale is directly aft."

The sermon was full of quotations from poets and sages and heathen philosophy, without one particle of Christianity, or a glimpse of the Gospel. At a special meeting of the "Friends," I heard two Quakers announce much truth in an exceedingly ungrateful form, with the most soporific effect.

The Warren Chapel Schools have been in 135 operation here nearly thirty years; a philanthropic effort, including Sunday-schools and dancing-classes, greenhouse-plants and knitting, statues and savings'-banks, Popish pictures and pic-nics—all which you are assured is anti-sectarian. The first glance of an understanding eye is not mistaken in observing that the tendency of all this is most intensely sectarian, and is a struggle to get proselytes to that large and dangerous sect, that cuts off fervid Christianity, on the one hand, and mere ignorance, on the other. If I have wronged this large Institution, I am not convinced by hearing that the Popish priest readily allows its managers to have his children.— *Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.*

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Near this, at Lebanon, is the colony of the Shakers Mrs. Hutchinson founded seventy years ago. They are very industrious, and wear long, ugly, grey dresses. They worship by dancing to a dirge like la-la-ly-la, and never marry, but adopt poor children.

The environs of Boston are not surpassed in beauty by those of any large town I know. In this particular, it is far superior to New York and Philadelphia. I heard the half-yearly recitations 136 of students at the Harvard University of Cambridge, which, I am sorry to say, is under Unitarian influence. In one of the Boston Museums there are some books of George Washington, scribbled over by his hand when a boy. Several of them are on Christian subjects, and particularly upon slavery.

Perhaps it is unfair to sketch the general character of the American people on so slight an acquaintance as a three months' residence; especially as salient bad features, more readily than prominent good ones, are likely to be caught by the hasty glance; and many a fault would be forgotten or softened down by more mature acquaintance, just as the long nose of one's friend looks shorter every day you meet him. But, talking of noses, I never met a real American with a real pug nose. Their features are usually very regular, neatly marked in one or other type of two classes of profile that are also noticed among the Indians—one with high cheekbones, black eyes, and square forehead; the other (the older Indian face) with very sharp aquiline nose and long eyebrow. Men's voices are gentle; every woman's is somewhat harsh. 137 The men look mild, with a pleasing expression when at ease, and very little working of lineaments or change of features when excited. But I have seen no quarrels here; not one blow in a rage; no gruffness, such as John Bull eminently possesses; and I have not met one single "dolt." How is it one hears every day of thefts, murders, and all kinds of crime (to-day, a Senator killed in a duel occupies four lines of the paper), yet you travel thousands of miles safely among a meek and courteous people?

Christianity improves every tribe of the human race, but no one more than the genuine American. American Christians often acquire the energy and repose, the heartiness and

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solidity, which it is easy to imagine, but so difficult to find. I take leave of this country with my estimate of it much elevated, and my interest in it quickened intensely, with deep affection for hundreds of its citizens; gratitude, admiration, and surprise, mingling as I review our intercourse. Verily, this is a great nation, and a great country, and I leave it with great regret.

138

### AMERICAN VOTING.

THE true relation of political parties, even in the village of Stoke Pogis, could not be understood except by long residence. How presumptuous, then, would it be for a mere traveller to dogmatize upon the intricate and interesting politics of thirty millions of people!

But there are certain points in the American political system which are peculiarly important to Englishmen just now; for many of us urge this country to imitate America in these, and some will even insist that the American plan of elections is successful in the States, while a few jump at once to the conclusion that therefore it would answer here.

No Conservative amongst us, be he ever so high a Tory, would refuse to adopt “useful reforms;” and no Whig, be he ever so strong a Radical, proposes to destroy “just rights.”

139

We all desire to diminish poverty and ignorance, to encourage industry and virtue, to restrain corruption and favouritism, and to give *due* weight to every element in the commonwealth. The only question in this connection that I shall touch upon, is this, How far these desirable objects are attained in America by giving every man a vote and permitting him to use the ballot. To ascertain the real estimate formed of the American system by the men who live under it, I discussed the subject in constant conversation nearly every day for three months, and always with the most intelligent Americans I could select. Anxiously seeking for evidence on both sides of the question, I found, with regret, that it was impossible to hear the *advantages* of the American plan properly advocated.

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Every body seemed to complain of it except two persons, of whom one was an Irish Romanist, who had never been in England, and who advocated slavery.

Almost in proportion to each man's intelligence, was his earnest protest, that "he was far too wise to meddle with politics," that he was "thankful to say that he had never cast a vote"; 140 that being an Englishman I might be excused; but that from any other "it would be almost an insult to suppose that *he* , a respectable Yankee, had anything to do with elections."

Now this particular result of the American system is undoubted, the distaste for political work expressed by a very large body of the best men you meet. Indeed, there are, perhaps, as many Americans who are deterred from the use of their own system by its defects, as there are Englishmen (worth anything in judgment) who are debarred from the use of ours by its limitations.\*

\* The Duke of Argyle said lately at Dundee, "Turning to the United States, it was the testimony of the best and most intelligent American citizens he had met with in this country that there was less and less possibility of getting the highest characters to take an interest in public affairs."— *The Press Newspaper*, Nov 20, 1858.

Let us hearken to a discussion about "The Ballot," between an American, who lives under its operations, and a British Reformer, who advocates it without any practical experience.

The American we shall call *A.* , and *B.* shall be the Briton.

141

*B.* The Ballot would at least ensure security in voting, for you could vote as you pleased.

*A.* We cannot. A man's vote maybe divined by seeing the newspaper he reads, or the political party he consorts with, or the meetings he frequents.

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Your only “secure voter” must have no distinct politics and read no particular paper.

Can you tell me of any case where there ever was any difficulty in knowing the vote of any man of decided politics in America?

B. The Ballot would prevent bribery.

A. No; it enables us to buy men in bundles, and cheaply too, for we don't pay them unless the side we purchase is victorious.\*

\* In the *Times*, of December 18th, 1858, mention is made of a letter from the President of the United States, alluding to bribery, in which he says: “Should this practice increase, until the voters in the state and national legislatures shall become infected, the fountain of free government will then be poisoned at its source; and we must end, as history proves, in a military despotism.”

B. At any rate there could be intimidation.

A. We have quite as much intimidation of voters as you have in England. It is constantly the practice for a master to require his workmen to vote as he pleases; if they do not affirm 142 they have done so, and prove it, he turns them off by hundreds. The only safety from intimidation consists in telling and proving a falsehood.

B. The Ballot would certainly do well in Ireland, where the priests are now the real electors.

A. That's because of the confessional—but the ballot won't change it. Nearly all our Irish votes are held by the priests, and the priests wield them for Archbishop Hughes, who is by far the most powerful man for patronage in the States. If I wanted an appointment and could not buy it, I should go to the Archbishop rather than to the President; for the last goes out in four years, but Dr. Hughes is always in power.



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B. Still, the Government, officials could not openly compel our voters.

A. Nor can they do so with you at present. But then we number 16,000 postmasters and officials who can be turned off at a moment's notice without reason assigned; and they are pretty clearly made to know that a vote against their masters would be a very good reason for dismissal.

B. Surely, the system of Ballot properly worked, would enable a man to vote as he liked, without letting his master know how he voted.

143

A. "Properly worked!" Why any system properly worked would leave the voter free; but the abuse of it has to be provided for, and this abuse is as hard to prevent in our system as in yours—take Jonathan's saw-mills, for instance. He had 180 hands; of these, sixty were for his party, and they went to his meetings, cheered their party colours, and voted a double-dyed blue ticket

Every man who did not do this was *primâ facie* on the other side; and unless he could prove he voted blue, he was held to have cast a yellow vote. A simple process you see when you come to work it!

A. The Ballot would give us the people's candidate.

B. The "election-agent's man," you mean. What has any single voter to do with the candidate ultimately proposed.

Recollect, you will have to arrange the matter thus:—Each parish will meet to vote a parish delegate. Your parish chooses the man who promises to vote for John Smith for the county. The parish delegates meet to elect a district delegate; but John Smith of your parish is 144 nothing to them. A majority of them prefer Tom Jones, who promises the most to the most *parishes* ; and so they elect a district delegate who will vote for him.

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When all the district delegates meet to select the Member for the county, the other districts ignore poor Jones; for they must have Jack Robinson, who will propose a canal from Linsey-Ga to Wolsey-Pa, that runs through twelve districts, and a few “cashy-looking” winks at your delegate will pacify him, and where are *you*?

*B.* That is not the Ballot; that is a complicated abuse of the simple plan.

*A.* Have you got any law ready to prevent this manner of working it? 'T is by no means complicated; but the most natural mode of selecting a candidate when they who choose him are all supposed to vote secretly, and none can exclaim against the nominee without at once disclosing how he has voted!

*B.* But, my dear cousin, we make constant use of the Ballot in our best clubs.

*A.* Yes, where you have to vote for or against individuals for continual personal contact, where it would not do to explain your reasons, where 145 personal animosity would be the result of open opposition, where you often allow it works badly and where, all the time—whatever you say—you feel you are voting in a manner you are half ashamed of.

*B.* I think the Ballot and universal suffrage would give us upright legislators, who would not waste our money.

*A.* Just the reverse. Our men try to please the most voters; most voters pay the least taxes individually, so the more the members spend, the more money flows *to* the poorest and *from* the more industrious!

What does each of 1000 voters care about £1000 mis-spent, when every pound will pay him and each of his nine friends 2s. a piece for (useless) labour, although not one of the ten men has given one shilling in taxes to the squandered sum?

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B. But we must get really good men into Parliament, and they will not do thus badly. They will represent the wishes of the community.

A. I hope ours *don't*. If they do, the wishes of the community must be mighty bad! Why, L 146 our general run of members are the laughing-stock of all sober-minded people. You know the old story, I dare say. 'T is far too true to be forgotten because it is old:—

“Poor Johnson! You know what became of Johnson. Ah! poor fellow, he went down hill sadly, till, from bad to worse, he got at last so low he was elected a member of Congress.”

Our elections are abjured by the good men; and they are managed by a set of regular paid partisans, who make it their daily business. The proved corruption and bribery in every department of the state exceeds what you can even imagine. Legislative, municipal, and judicial functionaries openly promise bribes, or are elected by violence. One candidate for a “judgeship” said lately, “If you elect me I will open all the liquor-shops on Sunday” (by perverting the law, be it remembered). Another said, “I will be strict in punishing every shop thus open.” The candidates were called, during the canvass, the “liquor judge” and “non-liquor judge.” I saw myself a rum-seller sit as a judge, and try sixty cases in an hour and a half, nodding to prisoners who may have been his customers or 147 his electors. The system of elections here is the most ridiculous caricature of proper representation ever tolerated by any civilised nation; and Americans, in proportion to their good sense, denounce this system. I saw an advertisement asking 300 labourers to come to a new railway. The steam vessel took 150 labourers 300 miles to “the new railway,” which was not even contracted for. These men were to land, and vote at some election; but the people repelled their invasion, and caused them to re-embark. I heard that half of them arrived in another town in time to be hired to vote there.

B. All these objections are American frailties incident to a new people, which we in England might overcome?

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A. Yes; but the ballot tolerates them all: nay, it produces them; and it steadily sanctions every one. Did you ever hear of a man being elected by ballot and universal suffrage, to protest against these flagrant wrongs?

B. We could soon get them elected, if we paid our members as you do.

A. Men who can't make money enough to live on by their own business, ought not to be paid, as members, to manage the business of the public.

B. But that rule would prevent many good men from getting seats.

A. Have you ever met anybody who said that *his* representative would not be elected unless he had a salary? Seems odd we have 10,000 volunteer firemen in one city alone, and yet we can't get 600 volunteer statesmen in all the Union!

B. Anything more, cousin, in the grumbling line?

A. Yes, we've made another blunder in committing power to mere numbers, forgetting that, whilst all have *equal* rights to protection of life, property, and reputation, the amount of our *privileges* in every department of trade, of politics, and of social life, never can be equal.

Is there one single occupation or business, in which you give the lowest and the highest an equal share of direction? Why should you give the same share to everybody, then, in the greatest of all works—the direction of the destinies of a state? If you build a house, do you listen equally to the hodman and the architect for a 149 fun? If you steer a ship, is the cabin-boy consulted with the mate? If you treat a disease, has the doctor only the same voice as the druggist's lad?

And yet here we give the very same weight to the vote of the Irish emigrant, who knows neither his alphabet nor the number of our States, as we do to that of the American citizen, who has lived all his life in our midst, and has proved his capacity for understanding the

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affairs of his country by successfully managing his own. The value of a vote is always that of the lowest that can be given. By making some shillings half of brass you may multiply your pieces, but you will not add to your wealth, for you will soon make the best shilling pass only for the value of the basest you have coined.

You may easily see, therefore, why good men won't vote if they count only with the most worthless.

All the grumbling *for* the ballot in England, is a mere whisper compared with our earnest abuse of what it produces in America.

150

### YANKEE NOTIONS.

EVERYBODY who travels with any interest, and has a desire to prolong it when he comes home, is sure to collect a parcel of odds and ends, of waifs and strays, from the tide of busy life floating by him daily.

It would be as easy to classify the "things" in a school boy's pocket, as to index these contents of the tourist's bag; and yet they are far more suggestive notes than those penned in his diary, or pencilled in his sketch-book.

Here is a handful of such things. The first is a gentleman's card given to me. Below a noble stag's head (the crest duly assigned by the Herald's College for 6s. 6d.!), you read:—"Col. Octavius Morris, No. 1979, Spruce Street, Philadelphia." Another, *not* left with me, and thus inscribed:—"Mrs. Ex-Commissioner of Sewers." Next, there is a long bill headed:—"Philanthropic 151 Convention—to overcome evil with good—the cause and cure of evil—Utica—Oneida Co., N. Y." And the committee of arrangement includes,—“Calvin Hall—Emily Rogers—Caroline Brown, M.D.”

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Look at this newspaper called “Daily Capital City Fact, Columbus, Ohio.” “Spiritualism lectures may be expected at the City Hall tomorrow—Mrs. H. F. M. Brown, editress of the Investigator, Cleveland, O., will speak in the morning at 11, and afternoon at 3.” Then follow six advertisements of astrologers.

Here is a long strip of paper put into my hand, with the following telegraphic message beautifully printed on it by the instrument itself,—“N. Y. Pa. cccxlviii. B.w.y. (i.e. From Philadelphia to No. 348, Broadway, New York). Send Macgregor by two o'clock, boat four at furthest—adjourned meeting—hold newspaper in his hand, coming off boat, so we may know him, G. S.”

Next comes a paper with a woodcut of elephants in terrific excitement—“A work for the library, farmer, clergy, and masses, 180,000 copies ordered in advance; order early if you want a copy, as there is a great rush to get this valuable work. Now ready, Dr Livingstone's 17 years, Explorations and Adventures in the Wilds of Africa; the most thrillingly interesting book issued since Robinson Crusoe.—Lost 17 years in the jungles of Africa. 100 splendid engravings; price 50 cents” (2s. sterling).—Various newspapers turn up next—“The Grumbler,” from Toronto—“The Spiritual Telegraph,” printed in New York, but edited in the nether world—“The Daily Hawk-Eye”—“The Catholic Herald and Visitor,” which visits me direfully with its wrath, out-poured upon a Protestant speech by “a Cockney maw-worm.” Lots of scraps from the “New York Herald,” including a whole column of close print, containing nothing, but these words (over and over again) “Take it home—‘Harper's Weekly,’ price five cents.”—And this “Harper's Weekly,” when you do take it home, you find has plenty of old pictures from the British Punch, not one acknowledged.—A yellow envelope, enclosing a letter from a black Church, addressed to me as a Reverend Divine.—A programme of the annual public proceedings at Cambridge, Massachusetts; 153 entitled “Harvard College—Order of Performances for Exhibition—University Chapel beginning at eleven o'clock—The performers will speak in the order

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of their names—The music will be performed by the Pierian Sodality;” and, in the list of twenty-four “performers,” there are only three that have not each three names.

Here is a pleasant scene in a court of justice:— “During the recent term of the District Court in Lake Charles, a tragedy of some description was confidently expected. Le Bleu had threatened the Judge and several other persons; and, in consequence, they and their friends prepared themselves for a desperate encounter. The court room and the hotel, it is said, presented something the appearance of badly arranged arsenals. One morning, bright and early, Le Bleu rode his mule into town, dismounted and proceeded to the hotel, with a long dragoon pistol in each hand, and a belt about his waist containing a revolver and a knife. He was evidently bent on mischief, but his enemies were on the watch, and before he could set his foot on the porch, he was saluted by a charge of buckshot from a gun in the hands of Mr. Fox, whose wife he had stolen. 154 Three or four more shots were fired by other persons, and Le Bleu fell dead with more than fifty buckshot in different parts of his body. Fox and two others were arrested as the persons who did the shooting.”

Next there is an account, in November 3, of the anniversary of the Young Men's Christian Association.—“The fourth year of the active life of the Young Men's Christian Association, was celebrated last night, in Jayne's commodious Hall, which was crowded to the superlative jammed-up degree of density. The people came as the waves come, when, etc., amiably elbowed each other up stairs, and seethed sociably together in the saloon. If Concert Hall had not been packed from end to end, and the Musical Fund Hall well populated, and the theatres and minor shows in a state of cheerful repletion, and if there had not been several individuals out in the streets, and a few more in the houses at home, it is probable that every body would have been there. The assemblage probably numbered five thousand souls, and from the stage had a majestic mien. A gentle majesty, be it observed, because of much millinery, and the roses and sunshine of pretty-girls' faces.”

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*Programme of the very latest Religious Sect.* —(It is a testimony to the acknowledged value of real religion, that so many counterfeits all try to ape the sterling coin.)—"Locality, Monona County, near the Missouri. Head, Charles Thompson. Journal, ' *the newspaper.* ' Mystery, 'the voice of Baneemy.' Object, to sell land. Progress, fifty to eight hundred members first year" (December, 1858).

*Notes of a Political Meeting, in Faneuil Hall, Boston.* —"Everybody present but the educated classes. Speakers eloquent in the abuse of the government, and logical in proving bribery and corruption, intimidation and speculation."

*Sketch of a Hansom Cab, imported to Boston by Capt.—, of the Cunard Steamer C—.* It was on the stand for months, but the worthy Briton was the only man who dare get into it; for everybody else was afraid till "the majority" should ride therein. The cab was brought back to England, and Boston still revels in its two-horsed "expensives."

*Water-colour Drawings of Equality.* —Two travellers at dinner; one without coat, other without shoes; while a dapper darkie, with 156 both shoes and coat, fans the flies off with a flapper.

Children of a banker and of a baker in a common school, each in a nice little arm-chair, and with a desk before him.

Such are some of the little, but not unimportant, touches of the great picture that unrolls, as a panorama, before the traveller every day. And it is well to seize everything as it passes, for the scene shifts swiftly. Even since this volume was begun, the New York Crystal Palace has been burned down, the City Hall has been burned up, and the Quarantine has been burned out. The walls of the State-Arsenal at New York have burst open, and the rocks of the nook under Niagara have closed up. Is this progress, or only movement? Is it going ahead, or only spinning round?



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THE END.

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